Hafa Adai!

'Goal is to complete rehab of tourist spots before visitors return' PAGE 5
Mariana leaders mourn passing of ex-Palau president Nakamura. PAGE 6

75¢

Saipan Tribune

THE CNMI'S FIRST DAILY NEWSPAPER

Volume XXX, Issue No. 208

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2,508 early votes in 5 days

ANIMAL SHELTER
Saipan Mayor David M. Apatang and Gov. Ralph DLG Torres lead other officials last Friday in breaking ground for the new animal shelter building that will be built at the Department of Lands and Natural Resources agricultural station in As Perdido.

JUSTINE NAUTA

Story on Page 3

FERDIE DE LA TORRE
ferdie_delatorre@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

The 21-day early voting for Saipan and the Northern Islands enters Week 2 today, Tuesday, with a total of 2,508 votes that have so far been cast in four polling sites as of Saturday, five days after the start of the early voting process.

Villagomez

» CEC: 18,526 active registered voters in the CNMI

CEC executive director Julita A. Villagomez told *Saipan Tribune* yesterday that early voting remains smooth but

See VOTES on Page 4

AT A GLANCE

As of 6pm, Oct. 19, 2020

GUAM	OLD	NEW	TOTAL
Positive	3,548	127	3,675
Recovered	2,297	0	2,297
Active	1,188	127	1,315
Deaths	66	0	66
Cumulative Number of Persons Tested			58,321

SAIPAN	OLD	NEW	TOTAL
Positive	86	0	86
Deaths	2	0	2
Cumulative Number of Persons Tested			19,345*

*Total count includes the number of persons tested on Saipan, Tinian, and Rota. With guidance from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, CHCC has opted not to report active and recovered cases. The community-based testing has been temporarily suspended.

Source: Joint Information Center - Guam, Commonwealth Health Care Corp.

Torres backs public hearing to determine IPI's 'financial suitability'—if CCC wants it

By FERDIE DE LA TORRE
ferdie_delatorre@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

If the Commonwealth Casino Commission believes that a public hearing is needed to determine and lay bare Imperial Pacific International (CNMI) LLC's "financial suitability," then Gov. Ralph DLG Torres said he will support that.

Speaking at a radio news briefing last Friday, Torres said that, in his opinion, at the end of the day his administration wants to make sure that, as a government, they're here to help companies, their pri-

Torres

See TORRES on Page 4

Study: Flying on UA safe from COVID-19 exposure

By BEA CABRERA
beacabrerasaipan@gmail.com
CORRESPONDENT

A landmark study on "Safety of Commercial Air Travel" that was recently released by the U.S. Department of Defense through its U.S. Transportation Command has concluded that a United Airlines cabin during a flight is one of the safest enclosed environments in the world and that the risk of COVID-19 exposure on a United aircraft is "virtually non-existent."

Story on Page 7

COMMUNITY VULNERABILITY

LEGEND:
- **Red:** Least safe
- **Orange**
- **Yellow**
- **Blue**
- **Green:** Safest

Source: Office of the Governor

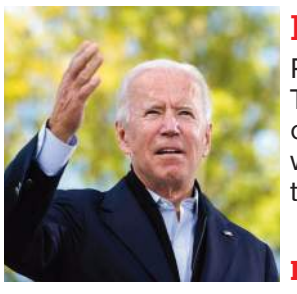
INSIDE

LOCAL
Marie Castro's life is an echo of the Northern Mariana Islands' anthem, "Gi Talo Gi Halom Tasi."

PAGE 6

BUSINESS
Nam Dae Moon Korean Restaurant in Garapan offers authentic Korean home cooked dishes.

PAGE 11



NATION
President Donald Trump and Democratic rival Joe Biden went on offense over the weekend.

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SCAN ME WITH A COMPATIBLE QR READER TO KEEP UPDATED ON ALL THE LATEST NEWS.

GOT A NEWS TIP? TEL: 235-6397 / 235-2440 FAX: 235-3740 EMAIL: editor@saipantribune.com

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CNMI The People's Party
DEMOCRATIC PARTY OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS

Candidates at a Glance

The Saipan Tribune will be coming out with a supplement,

#voteCNMI

in October 29 featuring candidates in the November election.

Spread your message to reach the people WHO VOTE.

Reserve your spot now!

For more information, please call 235-8747
and look for **Beth**, **Donna** or **Alyssa**

Hafa Adai! Saipan Tribune
THE CNMI'S FIRST DAILY NEWSPAPER

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Local

Nationwide recall of jelly product

By JUSTINE NAUTA
justine_nauta@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

A U.S.-based food wholesaler has recalled its jelly cups because they have been deemed a choking hazard.

The Commonwealth Healthcare Corp. released a statement last Oct. 19 that the wholesaler, Hason (Toko) Trading Co., Inc of Maspeth, New York, has recalled their Eishindo jelly mini cups due to the potential choking hazard of the cups, being 28.2 oz (800g).

According to the CHCC statement, the company and the U.S. Food and Drug Administration announced the recall last Oct. 14 after a meeting with an FDA representative who deemed it a choking hazard for its small size. To date, there have been no incidents of consumers who have choked on the jelly cups. Small jelly cups have previously been implicated in choking deaths of children.

The recalled products were distributed nationwide in retail food stores and are sold in large clear bags of 50 jelly cups. The UPC code is, "4970481000034," Product code is, "E007." CHCC urges consumers who may have purchased these jelly cups to return them to the store where they originally purchased them for a full refund or throw the product away in a sealed package inside a "secure garbage can with a tight-fitting lid."

The last food-related product that was recalled was the Kellogg's Honey Smacks cereal that was suspected of being contaminated with salmonella last June 18, 2018. The items recalled involved Kellogg's Honey Smacks cereal that had a "best if used by" date from June 14, 2018, through June 14, 2019. The "best if used by" date is on the box top.

At the time, CHCC also advised consumers and retailers to throw away the recalled product even if some cereal had already been eaten and no one got sick or return it for a refund.

For more information on this recall notice contact the Environmental Health Disease Prevention—which is the new name of the old Bureau of Environmental Health—at (670) 664-4870/72/73, or email the director of EHDP, John Tagabuel, at john.tagabuel@dph.gov.mp.

Scheduled power interruption on Thursday

There will be a scheduled power interruption on Thursday, Oct. 22, 2020, from 9am to 1pm for the Kagman 3 Phase 3 area.

As the Commonwealth Utilities Corp. continues its ongoing system maintenance, there will be a scheduled power interruption to de-energize utility lines such that CUC linemen are able to safely replace rusted power pole hardware on 15 primary power poles along Lalanghita Road in Kagman 3 Phase 3. Because of the scale of work that will be performed, CUC asks travelers to take alternate routes or to exercise caution when driving through the working area.

For more information, contact the CUC hotline (236-4333) or monitor our Facebook page for the latest updates (https://vv-ww.facebook.com/CommonwealthUtilitiesCorporation/). ***(PR)***

AQUA RESORT CLUB
Saipan

COSTA'S BUFFET IS BACK!
at Aqua Resort Club Saipan

KOREAN BANCHAN BUFFET

Enjoy an authentic Korean dinner buffet featuring delicious entrees, an unending variety of Banchan (Korean side dishes) and bottomless beer!
MASHITA!

FRIDAY • 6pm-9pm
Adults $38 | Children $19

SEAFOOD NIGHT BUFFET

Our popular Seafood Night Dinner Buffet is back! Indulge in all-you-can-eat Seafood appetizers, entrees, side dishes and a delicious desserts, All complimented with bottomless beer!

SATURDAY • 6pm-9pm
Adults $38 | Children $19

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SUNDAY • 11am-2pm
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A place that stray animals can call home

By JUSTINE NAUTA
justine_nauta@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

After four years of planning for an animal shelter, the Saipan Mayor's Office and the Legislature finally broke ground yesterday on a multifunctional animal shelter building that will be built at the Department of Lands and Natural Resources agricultural station in As Perdido.

The new animal shelter is projected to officially open in April 2021, which gives the project a 180-day timeline from ribbon-cutting to opening. The 5,000-square-meter animal shelter will have two separate sections on one large floor area, with one section for the kennel and the other section for offices, animal examination rooms, clinics, restrooms, a two-vehicle indoor garage, 18-vehicle parking stalls, and a laundry room.

The semi-concrete kennel will have 40 animal holding stalls. The shelter will have its own wastewater and sewer system, as the Commonwealth Utilities Corp. wastewater sewerline system is not available in the area. The total project cost is over $500,000, which is partially funded by disaster assistance awards, capital improvement funds, and local delegation appropriation.

JUSTINE NAUTA

Saipan Mayor David M. Apatang, sixth from left, poses with Gov. Ralph DLG Torres, fourth from left, and with other guests after the groundbreaking ceremony for the new animal shelter building at the Department of Lands and Natural Resources agricultural station in As Perdido yesterday.

Gov. Ralph DLG Torres thanked Saipan Mayor David M. Apatang and his staff as well as the rest of the CNMI leadership for their hard work and dedication in finally getting to yesterday's point.

The CNMI already had an animal shelter in Lower Base but it was damaged when Typhoon Soudelor hit the CNMI in 2015 and was later condemned because it had become structurally unsound. Apatang said that repairing the shelter would have cost more because it was in a flood zone and required a new floor for the shelter to be elevated at least 6 feet above the existing floor grade. It was then agreed in 2016 that the animal shelter would be moved to the DLNR agricultural station in As Perdido—a move supported by late DLNR secretary Richard Seman and current DLNR Secretary Anthony Benavente.

The Saipan Mayor's Office asked the Federal Emergency Management Agency for help with funding and, with the assistance of the governor's authorized representative, Vicky Villagomez, FEMA approved the request for an improved animal shelter.

According to Apatang, the architectural and engineering design, finding and getting additional funding sources, local federal historic preservation, and environmental compliance reviews and permitting were all part of the long and difficult process.

Apatang noted that there is a lot of work ahead for his team but, once the new shelter is completed, the facility will be able to care for not only residential pets but animals that the office is tasked to remove from streets, neighborhoods, parks, and school grounds. Apatang stated that the shelter will also offer residents place to bring their pets for veterinary care. Also, the shelter will have a clinic where the state and visiting veterinarians will offer animal health care.

The operation of the new shelter will help them catch up with their work of controlling the population of dogs and cats on the island, Apatang said, since the Lower Base animal shelter was shut down in late 2015.

R3A General Services LLC is the contractor for this project, represented by Ariel Villanueva, who said he and his team of 10 to 14 people, along with several other subcontractors, will work hard to get the project done as early as they can.

Commonwealth Utilities Corporation
Office of the Executive Director

INVITATION FOR BIDS
CUC-IFB-19-028 Revision No.2

REPLACEMENT OF SADOG TASI WWTP CLARIFER

The Office of the Executive Director, Commonwealth Utilities Corporation (CUC) is soliciting competitive sealed bids from qualified firms for the Replacement of Sadog Tasi WTTP Clarifier in Saipan, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.

The intent of the contract is for the Contractor to provide all labor, equipment, supplies and materials necessary to complete the scope of work which consists of; installation of a new circular clarifier mechanism and effluent launder box, construction of a sloped concrete floor, and other miscellaneous features. The work shall include; the dewatering and cleaning of aeration basin #3 and the clarifier, routing process flow and maintaining conditions during the construction period, and returning process flow from the aeration basin to the clarifier. The work shall be completed with minimal disruption to the daily operation of the Sadog Tasi Waste Water Treatment Plant. CUC requires the Project to be completed in **365 calendar days** from date of award of contract.

The project is funded by a grant from the United States of Environmental Protection Agency (USEPA). The award of this project is contingent upon receipt of approval for project award from USEPA.

Prospective Bidders must pre-register with the CUC Procurement & Supply Division. The Bid Package may be obtained from the CUC Procurement and Supply Office, 3rd Floor, Room No. 3, Joeten Dandan Commercial Building, Saipan, between 7:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. and 12:30 p.m. to 4:00 p.m., Monday through Friday, except on government observed holidays, upon completion of registration and presentation of a receipt evidencing a non-refundable payment to the CUC Treasury Section, by cash, check or credit card in the amount of $100.00 (non-refundable) for one IFB package set. If you have purchased this IFB before you do not have to repurchase but you would need to register with our office to receive a package.

A Pre-Bid Conference followed by site visits will be held on **October 29, 2020 at 10:00 AM (ChST)** at the CUC Main Conference Room, 3rd Floor, Room No.17, Joeten Dandan Commercial Building.

One (1) original and Five (5) copies of the bid MUST be submitted in a sealed envelope marked "CUC-IFB-19-028, Replacement of the Sadog Tasi Clarifier Revision No. 2" to the CUC Procurement & Supply Office, 3rd Floor, Room No. 3, Joeten Dandan Commercial Building, P.O. Box 501220, Saipan, MP 96950, no later than **10:00 AM (ChST) November 17, 2020,** at which time they will be publicly opened and read aloud. Bids mailed via postal or courier service must be received on or before due date and time or post-marked before due date and time. Bid shall be submitted on the provided Bid Forms. Bidders are required to complete all Bid Forms. Bidders may supplement this form as appropriate. Bids will be required to be submitted under a condition of irrevocability for a period of 60 days after submission. Late submissions and conditional bids will not be considered.

A *Bid Guarantee* of fifteen (15%) percent of the total bid price must accompany the bids. The security deposit may be in cash, certified check, cashier's check, or bid bond executed by a surety company holding a certificate of authority from the United States Secretary of Treasury as an acceptable surety. A *Payment Bond* of one hundred (100%) percent and a *Performance Bond* of one hundred (100%) percent of the total bid price will be required upon the execution of the contract by the successful bidders. The Payment and Performance bond must be executed by a surety company holding a certificate of authority from the United States Secretary of Treasury as an acceptable surety. Surety Company must be authorized to do business in the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands or otherwise secured in a manner satisfactory to CUC, for the protection of all persons supplying labor and material to the contractor or its subcontractors for the performance of the work provided for in the contract.

All insurers' questions, concerns and qualification shall be handled by the Department of Commerce Office of the Insurance Commissioner (OIC). The OIC is tasked with regulating and monitoring compliance to the CNMI's Insurance Code (Title 4, Division 7). *Bidders are required to submit a clearance from the OIC certifying their insurer of choice is in compliance with the CNMI's Insurance Code.*

Bidders are required to comply with all CNMI and applicable Federal Laws. This bid and the ensuing contract shall be executed pursuant to the CUC Procurement Regulations.

This Invitation for Bids does not commit CUC to the award of a contract or contracts, nor to pay any cost incurred in the preparation and submission of bids in anticipation of a contract. Bidders are advised that CUC assumes no responsibility in any act of omission on the part of the bidders due to lack of information or understanding of the bid requirements in the course of Contractor's preparation of a bid under the contract.

Questions or requests for clarification will be entertained only from registered Proponents and must be submitted in writing no later than **10:00 a.m. (ChST) on November 5, 2020** to Manny B. Sablan, CUC Purchasing Administrator via email address manny.sablan@cucgov.org with a copy to Westen Knudsen, P.E, CUC Water/Wastewater Engineer and to CUC P&S, Senior Administrative Technician, Christie L. Sablan at christie.sablan@cucugov.org.

CUC reserves the right to reject any or all bids and waive any imperfection in the bid proposal in the best interest of the government. All bids shall become the property of CUC.

GARY P. CAMACHO
Executive Director

MANNY B. SABLAN
Purchasing Administrator

Commonwealth Utilities Corporation
Office of the Executive Director

INVITATION FOR BIDS
CUC-IFB-20-027

ISLEY WATER TANK FENCE REPLACEMENT PROJECT

The Office of the Executive Director, Commonwealth Utilities Corporation (CUC) is soliciting competitive sealed bids from contractors for the replacement of the existing Isley Water Tank security fence in Isley Field, Saipan, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.

Prospective Bidders for this IFB must pre-register with the CUC Procurement & Supply Division. The Bid Package may be obtained from the CUC Procurement and Supply Office, 3rd Floor, Room No. 3, Joeten Dandan Commercial Building, Saipan, between 7:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. and 12:30 p.m. to 4:00 p.m., Monday through Friday, except on government observed holidays, upon completion of registration and presentation of a receipt evidencing a non-refundable payment to the CUC Treasury Section, by cash, check or credit card in the amount of $100.00 (non-refundable) for one IFB package set.

A Pre-Bid Conference is scheduled on **October 5, 2020 at 10:00 AM (ChST)** at the CUC Main Conference Room, 3rd Floor, Room No.17, Joeten Dandan Commercial Building.

One (1) original and Five (5) hard copies must be submitted in a sealed envelope marked **"CUC-IFB-20-027 *Isley Water Tank Fence Replacement Project"***, to the CUC Procurement & Supply Office, 3rd Floor, Room No. 3, Joeten Dandan Commercial Building, P.O. Box 501220, Saipan, MP 96950, no later than **10:00 AM (ChST) on October 27, 2020**, at which time they will be publicly opened and read aloud. Late submissions and conditional bids will not be considered. Bid shall be submitted on the provided Bid Forms. Bidders are required to complete all Bid Forms. Bidders may supplement the form as appropriate. Bids will be required to be submitted under a condition of irrevocability for a period of 60 days after submission. Late submissions and conditional bids will not be considered.

All bidders are advised that CUC assumes no responsibility in any act of omission on the part of the bidders due to lack of information or understanding of the bid requirements in the course of Contractor's preparation of a bid under the contract.

A *Bid Guarantee* of fifteen (15%) percent of the total bid price must accompany the bids. The bid guarantee may be in cash, certified check, cashier's check, or bid bond executed by a surety company holding a certificate of authority from the United States, Secretary of Treasury as an acceptable surety. A *Payment Bond* of one hundred (100%) percent and a *Performance Bond* of one hundred (100%) percent of the total bid price will be required upon the execution of the contract by the successful bidders. The Payment and Performance bond must be executed by a surety company holding a certificate of authority from the United States Secretary of Treasury as an acceptable surety. Surety Company must be authorized to do business in the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.

All insurers' questions, concerns and qualification shall be handled by the Department of Commerce Office of the Insurance Commissioner (OIC). The OIC is tasked with regulating and monitoring compliance to the CNMI's Insurance Code (Title 4, Division 7). Bidders are required to submit a clearance from the OIC certifying their insurer of choice is in compliance with the CNMI's Insurance Code.

All bidders are required to comply with all CNMI and applicable Federal Laws. This bid and the ensuing contract shall be executed pursuant to the CUC Procurement Regulations.

All questions or request for clarification regarding this project must be submitted in writing no later than **10:00 AM (ChST) on October 9, 2020** to Mr. Manny B. Sablan, CUC Purchasing Administrator, at email manny.sablan@cucgov.org with a copy to Ms. Yvonne Ogumoro, CUC Water/Wastewater Engineer at email yvonne.ogumoro@cucgov.org and Ms. Christie Sablan, Procurement & Supply, Purchasing Technician, Senior at email christie.sablan@cucgov.org

CUC reserves the right to reject any or all bids and waive any imperfection in the bid proposal in the best interest of the government. All bids shall become the property of CUC.

GARY P. CAMACHO
Executive Director

MANNY BOYER SABLAN
Purchasing Administrator

Federal court allows release of man indicted for fraud

By KIMBERLY A. BAUTISTA
kimberly_bautista@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

The federal court has released on an unsecured bond a man who was indicted for fraud for allegedly selling properties that he didn't own.

Michael Rosal Benavente, who is charged with two counts of wire fraud for selling real estate properties that were not his own, has pleaded not guilty and was released on an unsecured bond with conditions.

U.S. District Court for the NMI Chief Judge Ramona V. Manglona set the jury trial for Benavente for Dec. 8 at 10am.

The U.S. government wants to forfeit any money or property from the offense upon the conviction of Benavente.

Bruce Berline was appointed to represent Benavente while assistant U.S. attorney Garth Backe represented the federal government.

According to the indictment, between Dec. 22, 2018 and June 7, 2019, Benavente allegedly devised a scheme to defraud individuals to obtain money by means of materially false and fraudulent pretenses and representations.

Benavente allegedly provided false and fraudulent documents such as title reports and warranty deeds to individuals for the purpose of inducing financial investments in purported real estate transactions.

One of the examples stated on the indictment states that the defendant allegedly provided an individual with a preliminary title report that showed he had title to Lot No. E.A. 167-Rl. Benavente, however, allegedly did not have an ownership interest in Lot E.A. 167-Rl at the time, and, in fact, the document was a forgery.

The indictment also referenced another incident on or about May 27, 2019, when Benavente provided another person with a preliminary title report that showed he had title to Lot No. 093 E 24 but the document was also an alleged forgery.

Saipan Marianas Lions Club holds monthly beach cleanup

By JUSTINE NAUTA
justine_nauta@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

The Saipan Marianas Lions Club did their monthly beach cleanup last Oct. 18 at the Garapan Fishing Base, which the group has adopted and committed to cleaning regularly.

According to member Ladyvir Canape, the club has scheduled its monthly cleanup for the third week of every month in response to one of the Lions Club International's global cause, which is taking care of the environment.

Along with Canape, there were 18 volunteers who collected 16 bags of trash. "Thank you for your continued support to all our endeavors and projects by helping us to promote it," said Canape. "All members of SMLC and Leos of Saipan Marianas Alpha Leo Club are invited [to our monthly cleanup]."

SMLC also donated to the Tinian Elementary School last Oct. 1 some school and hygienic supplies that were funded by the club's first GoFundMe fundraiser. A total of 231 students from Kindergarten to sixth grade will be able to avail of these products. Canape stated that these products were received by TES principal Lou Connie Manglona, Tinian Mayor Edwin Aldan, his wife Rosita from Tinian International Women's Association, and other members of TIWA, and the Tinian community.

Canape says that they are still accepting donations, cash, or check (payable to Saipan Marianas Lions Club). Additionally, those who want more information can private message their Facebook page. The next batch of donations will go to Rota.

Canape also wants to acknowledge the donations from Blanca Imbo, Jhun Canape, Loisa Cabuhat, Wellington Ang, Henie Esmero, EnkhAmgalan Tserendorj, Josie Benavente, Eden Mercado, Jane Silapan, Allen and Susan Perez, Alma Basilgo, Daniel Yang, Annie Payne, Teresa Aldea Kane of Virginia, Marissa Reyes, Perlie Tolentino Santos, Emelio Uy, Mar Masilungan, and Beyond Limits 670 Car Club.

Enrollment extended for Project HOPE

The Project HOPE leadership continues to adjust on a weekly basis to accommodate circumstances. Project HOPE's latest registration deadline is Oct. 22 to allow for more students to get involved. Additionally, due to low response at the originally selected schools, the program is being opened for all PSS Saipan middle school 7th graders for the fall school year 2020-2021 and all activities will be held at the Guma Sakman on Fridays. The original plan was to focus on only three PSS middle schools initially and to give the Friends of the Marianas Trench the opportunity to build capacity, then new schools could be added in subsequent years.

Project HOPE (Healthy Ocean & People Empowerment), an ocean science program underscored with local, cultural relevance, is funded by a grant from the Administration of Native Americans and made available through a partnership with PSS. There is no cost for student participation. The Friends of the Mariana Trench is diligently working with PSS and other community leadership to recruit students for Project HOPE. There is still time to register your 7th grader!

Like most people, places, agencies and programs, Project HOPE's schedule continues to adjust accordingly with the latest available information. The program was initially planned for spring SY2019-2020 for 6th graders from Tanapag, Dandan and Chacha middle schools. When COVID rules created new norms, FOMT put the spring program on hold and attempted to engage with parents and students for a summer program. When that did not work out, FOMT shifted again and aimed for the SY2020-21 fall semester. SY2020-21 fall will be focused on 7th graders because they would have missed the opportunity from the previous school year. SY2020-21 spring will be available for this year's 6th graders.

"Our third attempt to engage was supposed to be the first week of October, but we had to delay and wait to hear how the new austerity Mondays decision would effect PPS," said project coordinator Joseph Villacrusis. "Project HOPE's schedule was built around austerity Fridays, providing students with after-school learning opportunities on Fridays and Saturday mornings. We had to postpone our start to wait for PSS's decision about which day would be their austerity day."

"Our enrollment numbers have been affected by the new normal with COVID causing PSS to go to mostly virtual learning. It's a lot for parents to deal with and now with the change of the austerity day being Monday, there's that much more to figure out," said FOMT assistant project coordinator Jessielynne Quitano.

Project director Laurie Peterka said, "There have been a lot of setbacks and adjustments to getting Project HOPE up and running. It seems like every other day we are working on new contingency plans, but we will do everything we can to make sure the PSS Saipan middle schoolers get the chance to try our program."

Inspired by the desire to improve Saipan's 6th graders' ACT Aspire test scores, Project HOPE uses experiential learning to increase students' understanding of experimental results, inferences, evaluation of models and analyzing data. Our weekly ocean science learning sessions are planned to also combine traditional cultural methods and STEM principles to promote ocean conservation stewardship; local elders with a lifetime of ocean expertise participate in ocean science activities right along with CNMI 6th graders.

"I want to once again thank PSS principals for working diligently alongside FOMT to ensure that students and parents can easily register for Project HOPE," added Villacrusis. "Anyone interested in registering can call me or view the project information and forms on our website."

For more information you can contact Joe Villacrusis at (670) 483 - FOMT (3668) or visit the FOMT website at friendsmarianatrench.org or email info@friendsmarianatrench.org. ***(PR)***

National novel-writing month starts soon

November is National Novel-Writing Month, more popularly known as NaNoWriMo. This is a madcap experience for writers around the world. The goal is to write a 50,000-word novel in 30 days. It can be done! It has been done in prior years by writers on Saipan and Guam.

If you want to write a novel, or any other book, there's nothing like a deadline to help you get it done. Writers age 13 and older can join the worldwide online group at www.nanowrimo.org. Writers under age 13 can join the Young Writers Program at http://ywp.nanowrimo.org . There is no charge to join.

Now is the time to commit to writing that book, to figuring out your genre, to exploring the resources at the NaNoWriMo website and online at YouTube and various author's blogs. But writing must wait until Nov. 1, when the fun starts. ***(PR)***

TORRES

From Page 1

vate partners.

"It's a partnership. So…if this is something that CCC needs to do in order to move forward, then obviously I will support that," said the governor in response to *Saipan Tribune*'s request for comments about the idea of holding such a public hearing, as had been intimated by the commission.

During a meeting last month, CCC chair Edward Deleon Guerrero raised the idea of holding a public hearing to determine if IPI has the financial capability to continue the construction and operation of the casino/resort facility in Garapan, among other projects. At that hearing, Deleon Guerrero said, they will ask IPI to prove that it has the money to continue with its projects in the CNMI.

Torres himself hopes that IPI has that capacity. "I hope that IPI [remains] here in the CNMI if they're able to take care of their duties and responsibilities for the Commonwealth, [like] every other company and industry," he said.

Early this month, acting CCC executive director Andrew Yeom filed another complaint against IPI before the CCC board, this time over IPI's failure to pay the $3.1 million regulatory fee that was due last Oct. 1.

Yeom, through assistant attorney general Michael L. Ernest, filed two claims against IPI for violation of the Commonwealth Code and CCC regulation, a claim for breach of contract, and a claim for declaratory order.

Last August, Yeom, through Ernest, also filed a complaint against IPI before the CCC board over its failure to pay the $15.5 million annual casino license fee by the deadline last Aug. 12. Yeom filed the same four claims against IPI.

Separately, then-CCC executive director Charlie Atalig, through Ernest, filed a complaint before the CCC board against IPI in June for allegedly failing to contribute $40 million in Community Benefit Fund money in 2018 and 2019 as required by the casino license agreement.

VOTES

From Page 1

slow and the turnout is still low, and that they have not encountered any major problems so far.

She encouraged voters to exercise their right to vote and avail of the early voting process.

CEC election clerk assistant Edward Seman Bai said that, as of Saturday, out of 2,508 early voters, the biggest number came from Precinct 1, with 856 votes cast, followed by Precinct 5, with 447, and Precinct 3B, with 374.

There were 284 voters from Precinct 2; 212 from Precinct 3A; 192 from Precinct 4; 54 from Precinct 4D; 38 from Precinct 6; and 51 from Precinct 7.

Bai said there are 18,526 registered voters in the CNMI. The largest number of voters are from Precinct 1 with 4,937 registered voters; followed by Precinct 3 with 3,778; and Precinct 5 with 2,771.

Precinct 2 has 1,529 voters; Precinct 4 has 1,694; Precinct 4D (Northern Islands) has 162.

Precinct 6 or Tinian and Aguiguan has 1,724, while Precinct 7 or Rota has 1,931.

The Koblerville Youth Center in Koblerville is the polling site for voters from Precinct 1A or San Antonio, Precinct 1B or San Vicente, and Precinct 1C or Koblerville.

For voters from Precinct 2 or Chalan Kanoa, Precinct 3A or San Jose, and Precinct 3B or Garapan, the polling site is the Pedro P. Tenorio Multi-Purpose Center in Susupe.

For voters from Precinct 4D or Northern Islands, from Precinct 6 or Tinian and Aguiguan, and from Precinct 7 or Rota, but are temporarily staying on Saipan, the polling place is also at the Pedro P. Tenorio Multi-Purpose Center.

For voters from Precinct 4A or Tanapag, Precinct 4B or San Roque, Precinct 4C or Capital Hill, the polling site is the Tanapag Youth Center in Tanapag.

Voters from Precinct 5 or Kagman, shall vote at the Kagman Community Center in Kagman.

The CEC said that voters must ensure that they bring with them an identification card with photo as they will be required to present it in order to be issued a ballot.

For those who are 55 years old and above and those with disabilities, the voting hours will be from 8am to 9am. Voting hours for all registered voters will be from 9am to 5pm.

The seven-day early voting on Tinian and Rota will commence on Oct. 27.

‘Goal is to complete tourist spot rehab before visitors return’

By FERDIE DE LA TORRE
ferdie_delatorre@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO
File photo shows the Bird Island.

Gov. Ralph DLG Torres said the government, non-government organizations, and private sector have been doing a lot of revitalization projects at several tourist spots even during this COVID-19 pandemic, with the ultimate goal of having the sites up and running before tourists come back to the CNMI. Speaking at a radio briefing last week, Torres said he is thankful to NGOs and the government’s private partners for their five-year commitment to what’s being called “Public-Private Partnership,” bringing their staff and their families not just to renovate tourist sites but also to clean around the islands.

“It’s doing very well,” said Torres, who cited some of the visual reconstruction or remodeling that had already been done on the Beach Road Pathway.

“We are working on the Grotto, the stairs. We do have other projects. The Forbidden Island [project] is done,” he said.

On Rota, the Valentino Hotel group and some other NGOs have committed to help revitalize tourist sites in the CNMI’s southernmost island, Torres said, and that they are working on Tinian’s tourist sites as well.

The “Public-Private Partnership,” an initiative of the Governor’s Economic Task Force that Torres co-chairs with TanHoldings president Jerry Tan, is driven by the ultimate goal of transforming the CNMI into a world-class tourist destination. “And they are working on revitalizing, remodeling and fixing up our tourist sites. They are working on it and I hope that in the next month or so, you’ll see more of those sites ready up and running,” Torres said.

The governor said each project varies on what needs to be done, so the timeframe for each project also varies. For example, the Grotto requires just fixing up the stairs and some other stuff. The Bird Island project, on the other hand, is going to take a little longer because there’s an actual bigger plan for that, Torres said. That means changes could happen in as little as the next couple of months for the smaller projects.

He also thanked the support of the private sector and their families who share their free time to work on these projects on weekends.

Man who stole his brother’s identity pleads guilty

By KIMBERLY A. BAUTISTA
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REPORTER

A man who stole his brother’s identity to withdraw thousands of dollars from his bank account pleaded guilty to two counts of aggravated identity theft before the District Court for the NMI last week as part of a plea agreement with the U.S. government.

Brian Galang Lizama admitted that he impersonated his brother and made a number of withdrawals from his brother’s Bank of Guam account, totaling over $30,000.

District Court for the NMI Chief Judge Ramona V. Manglona accepted Lizama’s guilty plea. She then unsealed the plea agreement and vacated the jury trial scheduled for Oct. 27, 2020. The federal court scheduled Lizama’s sentencing for Feb. 24, 2021, at 9am.

Aggravated identity theft usually carries a mandatory two-year term of imprisonment and $100 special assessment fee, as well as a maximum fine of $250,000. Lizama was originally charged with bank fraud and aggravated identity theft. With the plea deal, it is presumed that the bank fraud charge will be dropped.

After serving a sentence that has yet to be imposed on him, Lizama will be placed on one-year probation and will pay restitution in the amount of $30,850.

Lizama is currently serving time at the Department of Corrections for a criminal theft conviction in Superior Court.

At the change of plea hearing last week, Manglona ordered Lizama to report to the U.S. Probation Office no later than three days after being released from CNMI Corrections.

According to the indictment, between Dec. 23, 2019, and Feb. 5, 2020, Lizama obtained a Saipan mayor’s ID in the name of his brother who was in jail at that time. Lizama then used the ID to make withdrawals from his brother’s Bank of Guam savings account totaling over $30,000. It was not immediately learned why his brother was in jail.

Mariana leaders mourn passing of ex-Palau president Nakamura

Speaking on behalf of the people of the Commonwealth, Gov. Ralph DLG Torres and Lt. Gov. Arnold I. Palacios said they join the people of Palau and its leaders in mourning the passing of former Palau president Kuniwo Nakamura, who passed away on Oct. 14, 2020.

"We would also like to extend our deepest heartfelt condolences to the Nakamura family during this difficult time," said the Torres-Palacios administration in a statement last Sunday.

The statement described Nakamura as "a true pioneer" for the Republic of Palau, who helped navigate his nation from the Trust Territory days to its independence, served as vice president of Palau from 1989-1993, and eventually serving as Palau president from 1993-2001. He was the sixth president of the Republic of Palau. President Nakamura was awarded the World Peace Prize – Top Honor in 1997 for his leadership in bringing independence and democracy to the Republic of Palau, as well as promoting political stability and protecting the environment. The Torres-Palacios statement said that the prize signified Nakamura's role a champion of Palau's cultural identity, natural environment, and prosperity, and consistently worked to preserve it.

Nakamura

"There is no doubt his impact was felt on a global level," the statement added. "His commitment to his people and dedication to public service will continue to serve as an inspiration to all islanders across the Pacific. We truly thank him for service to all of Micronesia."

Sen. Tina Rose Muña Barnes, who is the speaker of the 35th Guam Legislature, also issued a statement about Nakamura's passing. "On behalf of my husband Jake and I, our family, as well as the 35th Guam Legislature, I would like to extend my deepest condolences to the family of President Nakamura. Our islands have definitely been able to flourish due to the long mutually-beneficial relationship between the people of Guam and the people of the Republic of Palau. This relationship is testament of President Nakamura's leadership and commitment to his people and all those who call this Blue Continent home. We lost a friend, an ally, and a partner for sustainability, political stability, and prosperity—and as honorary Palauan, Mr. President, you will be cherished in the hearts of those you touched." ***(Saipan Tribune)***

O land of mine: Saipan and its culture of respect

By LINDSAY NASH
SPECIAL TO THE SAIPAN TRIBUNE

YEH-YEH

By LINDSAY NASH
Special to the Saipan Tribune

Lindsay Nash is a writer and photographer who lives on Saipan. She is a member of the Marianas Writers' Movement and is currently writing a novel about 20th century Saipan. Email her at lindsayinsaipan@gmail.com.

The Yeh-Yeh series shares rich stories and oral traditions of Saipan. The name is inspired by Refaluwasch elder Lino Olapai's childhood memory of being told to say "yehyeh" as the elders told stories. Once it was quiet, the elders knew the children were asleep.

If I ever leave this place
One day I will return

Marie Castro's life is an echo of the Northern Mariana Islands' anthem, "Gi Talo Gi Halom Tasi."

Castro, formerly Sister Maria Soledad Castro of the Mercedarian Missionaries of Berriz, spent 50 years of her life in the United States. Now returned, she understands she carried her Chamorro culture with her through it all.

At age 87, Castro has a warm and soft presence as she shares her life and stories—and she has many to tell. Outside her kitchen window, the rain comes down hard in an afternoon shower and a coconut tree waves in the wind.

"It is our tree of life," she says, nodding toward the tall palm, as ubiquitous on Saipan as the blue-collared kingfishers who twitter atop them.

SPOTLIGHT

"We used every part of the coconut," Castro said. "The leaves for roofing. The white bones of the leaf we used to make a broom. The flower of the coconut to extract *tuba* for vinegar."That's in addition to the oil with its countless uses and the milk so often used in her native Chamorro cooking with taro, yam, and *saibuk*, a Chamorro specialty with breadfruit.

"We always depended on nature," Castro said.

Her Chamorro upbringing was centered around respect—respect for the land, respect for their family, respect for the community.

She remembers the old culture of dating, where the boys would stand in the back of the church to watch the girls, choosing who they would court. She also remembered that her father made her chaperone her older sister, who cleverly found a way to skip choir practice to meet her boyfriend.

She remembers the traditional Catholic wake, where family and friends would hold vigils overnight with simple snacks like crackers and coffee as they played cards quietly to pass the time until the next day, when they would accompany the body to Mass and then the burial site.

Castro remembers the simplicity of Sundays with Mass at 5am and then afternoons at home when her mother would read stories from the Bible to her and her siblings.

"Respect is very deeply rooted in our hearts. As little kids, the siblings had to respect their older brothers and sisters. You could not raise your voice to your older brother or sister because it's a lack of respect."

It was an important value for Castro both in her early life on Saipan, and later, when she left the island for a college education at Donnelly College in the United States, an opportunity afforded through the Mercedarian Missionaries.

Once in the United States, Castro began to search for a deeper meaning for her life. She loved her religious life, but she felt like something was missing.

Marie Castro's Chamorro upbringing was centered around respect--respect for the land, respect for their family and respect for the community.
LINDSAY NASH

As a child who had experienced the terrors of World War II and the invasion of Saipan, Castro felt she owed a debt of gratitude to the American Marines who rescued her family from a cave during the war. She wanted to repay them with service.

This led to a career of teaching in the Kansas City public schools during a difficult period of American history. She became a teacher during the first years of school integration, bringing together white and Black students for the first time.

Challenges quickly arose, Castro said. When a Black student asked if she preferred the white or the Black students, she realized the problems they faced. She sat down with the Black students and asked them to speak candidly about their feelings. "They said what was really on their minds," Castro remembers. "After they finished, I said, 'You know what? I'm neither black or white. I came from very far away—an island in the Pacific. I came here because I care about you. I care about the white kids. And I care about you. We are all one family.'"

Castro lived in the United States for 50 years, returning to Saipan every summer to visit her family. When she retired from teaching, she knew it was time to come home for good. "I had already given my service there," Castro said. "I knew I could still give service to my people. That's what made me come back."

Marie Castro has spearheaded an effort to create a local memorial for Amelia Earhart. That project, too, is about respect, she said.
LINDSAY NASH

Now she is busy in that service to the island. She has spearheaded a grassroots effort to create a memorial for Amelia Earhart, which supports the theory that the famed pilot was brought to Saipan where she eventually perished. This too is about respect, she said.

"We need to try to preserve the culture that has been handed down to us," Castro said. "Because respect is everything—for the family, for everything."

The rain picks up again outside, covering the jungle in a blanket of fog. Castro clutches her heart as she thinks about her return to Saipan, when she heard the anthem play at a women's gathering.

For I can never leave you
O land of mine.

"Hearing those words made me so emotional," she said. "I thought, 'Oh, I am back. I am home.'"

MVA saw $3M drop in revenue after Yutu

By JUSTINE NAUTA
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REPORTER

Not counting the zero tourist arrivals in the CNMI in since late March this year, the revenue of the Marianas Visitors Authority took a bad hit in 2019, in the aftermath of Super Typhoon Yutu, which hit the CNMI in October 2018.

According to its latest audit of the agency, the Office of the Public Auditor reported that the MVA's revenue dropped by $3,311,692 in the year that ended on Sept. 30, 2019.

The report states that MVA's revenue in 2018 and 2017, was at $15,631,684 (2018) and $15,585,733 (2017). However, its revenue significantly dropped by $3,311,692 in fiscal year 2019 to just $12,319,992.

As MVA explained it, the CNMI's tourism industry took a hit in 2019 because of Super Typhoon Yutu that hit the CNMI in October 2018. In November 2019, the CNMI had only 5,595 visitors. When added to the visitor arrival numbers in the previous months, that only totaled up to 424,858 visitor arrivals, which is a 182,685 drop compared to fiscal year 2018's 607,543 visitor arrivals.

Additionally, because of Super Typhoon Yutu, the cancellation of direct flights from Japan and the closures of Mariana Resort & Spa and Coral Ocean Point Resort were also factors that made it "a difficult year for the tourism industry for [fiscal year] 2019."

Not only did they lose revenue, but the CNMI also lost visitor arrivals, which resulted in loss of jobs, loss of revenue for the central government, and hotel occupancy tax collections for MVA's operations and marketing.

MVA added that at the government funding level, MVA's balance in fiscal year 2019 decreased by $4,085,391, a result of nonpayment of MVA's share in the hotel and occupancy tax.

As of Sept. 20, 2019, MVA reported that its investments in capital assets amount to $127,009, net of accumulated depreciation. Its depreciation expense for fiscal year 2019 was at $86,870.

The acquisition of capital assets for MVA's operation this fiscal year amounts to $27,812. On Sept. 30, 2019, some of MVA's fixed assets were retired and write-offs amounting to $794 were recorded.

Future plans

MVA says it expects tourism in the Marianas will be different once travel activities are allowed to resume once the COVID-19 pandemic recedes. "The 'new normal' would involve enforced health security standards for both tourists and personnel and the rest of the community. While the industry adjusts to the 'new normal,' [MVA] will focus on attracting its key source markets back to the Marianas," said MVA.

MVA said that its Destination Enhancement and Product Development division will continue "to define, launch, and maintain programs to enhance the Marianas as a tourist destination." This includes evaluating the tourism-attraction value of current sites, monitoring and upgrading the content and upkeep of these existing sites, and increasing the number of sites.

"COVID-19 has demonstrated that this may not be an isolated event but a foreshadowing of a new future. The future effects of these issues are unknown," said MVA.

Study: Flying United Airlines is safe from COVID-19 exposure

By BEA CABRERA
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CORRESPONDENT

A landmark study on "Safety of Commercial Air Travel" that was recently released by the U.S. Department of Defense through its U.S. Transportation Command, or U.S. Transcom, has concluded that a United Airlines cabin during a flight is one of the safest enclosed environments in the world and that the risk of COVID-19 exposure on a United aircraft is "virtually non-existent."

The results of the study, which was shared with the media on behalf of Koji Nagata, United Airlines director for Asia/Pacific Communications, said that the U.S. Transcom study was conducted aboard a Boeing 777 and 767 United Airlines aircraft using "Particulate Testing Methodology." It determined that fast onboard air recirculation, downward designed air ventilation and efficient HEPA filters, which are designed to arrest very fine particles, make the cabin of a United airplane one of the safest indoor environments in the world.

UNITED AIRLINES

A Zoono Microbe Shield, an antimicrobial sanitizing procedure that forms a lasting bond with surfaces and inhibits the growth of microbes, sprays an antimicrobial coating inside a United Airlines plane cabin. This procedure serves as an added layer of protection that complements the airline's existing, electrostatic spraying regimen.

The study also stated that it was the most comprehensive study on cabin airflow done to date and demonstrates that when a passenger is seated and wearing a mask, on average only 0.003% of infected air particles could enter their breathing zone, even when every seat on the plane is occupied. The findings also showed that even in neighboring seats, risk is limited and that masks continue to help minimize exposure when someone coughs.

The study, which took place over six months, comprised 300 tests conducted over 38 hours of flight time and 45 hours of ground testing on United aircraft. Each test released 180 million particles—equivalent to the number of particles that would be produced by thousands of coughs.

The study was done by releasing particles across the entire cabin by section, using a mannequin equipped with an integrated aerosol generator to simulate breathing and coughing with a mask and without. Each section had 42 bio-defense sensors set up in every seat across multiple rows. Sensors were also placed in the galleys and jetbridge during ground testing. The sensors represented other passengers who could potentially come in contact with the particles emitted. To make the situation even more realistic, thermal blankets were used to simulate body heat emission onboard.

Approximately 99.99% of particles were filtered out of the cabin within six minutes due to fast air circulation, downward air ventilation and efficient filtration systems on the plane.

Aside from U.S. Transcom, the Defense Advanced Research Projects Agency was also involved in the study. They were joined by other study participants such as Boeing, S3i, Zeteo Tech, and the National Strategic Research Institute at the University of Nebraska.

According to UA chief customer officer Toby Enqvist, these results from the U.S. Department of Defense demonstrate "that the steps we have taken at United, including maximizing air flow, running our air filtration system at all times, enforcing a mandatory mask policy and overhauling our cleaning procedures mean your chances of COVID-exposure on a United aircraft are nearly non-existent, even if your flight is full."

Bankruptcy seminar in Guam and CNMI

The District Courts of Guam and the Northern Mariana Islands, in partnership with the Guam and CNMI Bar Associations, are hosting a virtual and in-person Bankruptcy Seminar Series.

This seminar series will expose federal and local bar members, debtors, creditors, banking institutions, lenders, real estate agents, brokerage firms and other interested businesses to current bankruptcy issues. Attendees will receive updated case law and information to assist them in deciding whether a bankruptcy case should be filed, and the issues that may arise.

"Given the current state of global economic affairs, I hope that attorneys will avail of this training and embrace professional opportunities to assist debtor and/or creditor clients navigate through the financial upheaval caused by this pandemic," said Chief Judge Ramona V. Mangloña of the District Court for the Northern Mariana Islands.

The first virtual seminar in the series, called "Building a Bankruptcy Practice," was held last Sept. 24, 2020, and was open to members of the Guam and CNMI Bar Associations. Bar members who registered with the CNMI Bar Association and attended this two-hour series received 1.5 general Continuing Legal Education Credits and 0.5 ethics credits for a total of 2 CLE credits.

The second virtual seminar will take place on Oct. 30,2020, from 8am to 10am (GMT+10), and is called "Economic Impacts of COVID-19." It will focus on "Cutting Edge Bankruptcy Issues" and is designed to provide information and guidance to the CNMI's federal and local bar members, banking institutions, lenders, creditors, real estate agents, brokerage firms and other interested businesses.

"Businesses are struggling to survive, and bankruptcy may be the right solution for some, but it is not the only option for a struggling business. This seminar will provide valuable insight of ways for business to deal with the COVID-19 pandemic crisis," said a press statement yesterday from the CNMI Bar Association.

Key topics will include valuation of assets, moratoriums on loans and mortgages, forgiveness of PPP loans, and more.

This virtual seminar will present the following panelists: Judge Daniel P. Collins, a bankruptcy judge for the U.S. Bankruptcy Court for the District of Arizona; Siska S. Hutapea, president and chief appraiser of Cornerstone Valuation Guam, Inc.; Clarke Schaumann, CEO and member of the board of directors for ANZ Guam, Inc.; and Andrew Helman, a partner and co-chair of Bankruptcy Practice at Murray Plumb and Murray law firm in Portland, Maine.

Who may register

Virtual Bankruptcy Seminar 2 is open to Guam and CNMI bar members, banking institutions, lenders, debtors, creditors, real estate agents, brokerage firms, and businesses. You must register with the CNMI Bar Association to attend this second seminar. Registration fee is $25 for Part 2. Continuing Legal Education Credits: Two general credits

For more information and details regarding the virtual and in-person Bankruptcy Series seminars, contact the CNMI Bar Association via email at cnmibar@gmail.com or the District Court for the NMIs Lawyer Representative, Vince J. Seman at (670) 483-7911, or email at vjseman@semanlaw.com. ***(PR)***

COMMONWEALTH PORTS AUTHORITY

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NOTICE OF INVITATION FOR BID
ADVERTISING CONCESSION AT THE TINIAN INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT

Project No.: CPA-IFB-003-20
CPA Concession No.: TAD-2020-01–02

Notice is hereby given that the Commonwealth Ports Authority (the "CPA") is accepting sealed bids, subject to the terms and conditions of the Invitation for Bid (the "IFB"), and other contract provisions, for bids from firms, companies, and/or corporations for Advertising Opportunities at the Tinian International Airport.

The IFB will be issued and available for pick-up beginning September 16, 2020, from 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m., Monday to Thursday, at the Administration Office, 2nd Floor, Arrival Building, Saipan International Airport. CPA offices are closed every Friday for austerity reasons and also on holidays. The IFB includes layouts and requirements. All responses to this IFB shall also take into account any and/or all costs that will be charged to the bidder awarded the contract for the project. Prospective bidders will be required to pay an administrative fee of $100.00 for costs associated with handling and consideration of the bid.

Questions and/or clarification concerning this project shall be in writing and sent to the attention of the Executive Director through email at cpa.admin@pticom.com with copy to Joy Ann DeLeon Guerrero at joydlg@cpa.gov.mp no later than September 30, 2020.

All bids shall be sealed and marked on the cover package outside as follows: **"INVITATION FOR BID SUBMISSION: CONFIDENTIAL, ADVERTISING OPPORTUNITIES, COMMONWEALTH PORTS AUTHORITY CPA-IFB-003-20."** One (1) original and two (2) copies of the bid must be submitted no later than 2:00 p.m. Chamorro Standard Time, October 20, 2020, to the Authority Administration Section, Office of the Executive Director, 2nd Floor, Arrival Building, Saipan International Airport.

Bids will be opened on October 20, 2020, at 3:00p.m. at the Conference Room, 2nd Floor, Departure Building, Saipan International Airport. Bids are not required to include a prepaid minimum concession fee. The concessions are for the right to advertise at certain designated locations within the Tinian International Airport for a period of two (2) years and requires the concessionaire to operate such concession to the satisfaction of the Commonwealth Ports Authority.

The Commonwealth Ports Authority reserves the right to reject any or all bids for any reason, if in its sole opinion to do so, would be in CPA's best interest. CPA further reserves the right to waive any defects in said bids if in its sole opinion to do so would be in CPA's best interest. All bids shall become property of the Commonwealth Ports Authority.

FOR THE COMMONWEALTH PORTS AUTHORITY

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Attorney for Plaintiff Bridge Capital, LLC

IN THE SUPERIOR COURT OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS

BRIDGE CAPITAL, LLC,	)	
	)	Civil Case
Plaintiff,	)	No. 20-0104
v.	)	
SYLVAN O. IGISOMAR,	)	**FIRST AMENDED NOTICE OF SALE**
Defendant.	)	

Plaintiff Bridge Capital, LLC (**"Bridge"**) hereby gives notice that, in order to satisfy sums due pursuant to the stipulated judgment entered June 12, 2020 in favor of Bridge, and pursuant to the Court Order dated September 8, 2020 authorizing a foreclosure sale (the "**Sale Order**"), the auctioneer designated in the Sale Order will sell at public auction, to the highest bidder, on **Tuesday, November 17, 2020 at 10:00 a.m.,** the following parcel of real property:

Lot 1944NEW-1-R2, situated at Chalan Laulau, Saipan, containing an area of 22,589 square meters, more or less, as more particularly described on drawing/cadastral plat no. 2031/10, the original of which was recorded May 26, 2010 under File No. 10-888 at the Commonwealth Recorder's Office, Saipan (the "**Property**").

PARTIAL TERMS OF SALE

1. **Auction Location.** The auction will be held in the first floor conference room of the Bridge Capital building located at Micro Beach Road, Garapan, Saipan.
2. **Auction Procedure.** The auctioneer designated by the Court will conduct an auction via competitive bidding. The bidding will remain open until the auctioneer declares that the bidding is closed. If a dispute arises between bidders, the auctioneer shall make the final decision either to determine the successful bidder or to resell the Property.
3. **Auctioneer's Rights.** The auctioneer may do any of the following: (1) withdraw the Property from sale at any time before the auctioneer accepts a winning bid; (2) adjourn the auction without notice, at any time before the auctioneer accepts a winning bid; (3) reject any bid, for any reason; or (4) expel a bidder from the auction location.
4. **Bids.** Bidders may submit bids in advance for the Property. These bids will not be binding. The highest advance bid will become the opening bid for the Property on the day of the auction. During the bidding, bidders may make bids in person or by telephone.
5. **Reserve Price.** The reserve price for the property is $550,000.00.
6. **Deposit.** The successful bidder shall provide to Bridge an earnest money deposit, by check, cashier's check, or money order, equal to 10.00% of the winning bid amount (the "**Deposit**"). Bridge will apply the Deposit toward the amount of the winning bid. If the winning bidder fails to deliver the Deposit to Bridge before 5:00 p.m. on the day of the auction, the winning bidder's bid will be deemed to be automatically rejected, without further notice to the winning bidder. A bidder who bids by telephone shall comply with the deposit requirement.
7. **Sale Terms.** The winning bidder shall pay the full amount of the winning bid to Seller, by check, cashier's check, or money order, no later than 10 business days after winning the auction. The closing will occur at Seller's office at Micro Beach Road, Garapan, Saipan. The sale will be closed by Daniel T. Guidotti, Seller's attorney. The winning bidder may request that the closing proceed through escrow, subject to the winning bidder paying 100% of all escrow fees.
8. **Property Sold "AS-IS WHERE IS."** The Property is being sold in "AS IS WHERE IS" condition. Bridge and the auctioneer make no representations, express or implied, with respect to the Property regarding title, area, location, suitability of the Property for any particular purpose, the existence or condition of any improvements situated on the leased Property, or the existence or non-existence of any conditions that might affect development of the Property (such as zoning, hazardous waste, historical preservation issues, threatened or endangered species, and wetlands).
9. **Changes to Auction Terms.** Either Bridge or the auctioneer may change or add to these terms or any additional terms prior to or at the auction. An oral announcement made at the auction will supersede anything in writing, including these terms. All changes made in this manner will be binding on the winning bidder.
10. **Additional Terms.** Additional terms apply. Interested bidders may obtain these additional terms from the attorney for Bridge, Attorney Daniel T. Guidotti. Bidders may request this information by telephone at (670) 322-2222 or via email at dtguidotti@bccnmi.com. All bidders are responsible for knowing these additional terms prior to bidding on the Property.

Bartley A. Jackson
Auctioneer

Opinion

Hafa Adai!
Saipan Tribune
THE CNMI'S FIRST DAILY NEWSPAPER
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JUDGE BARRETT GOES GROCERY SHOPPING
PAPER OR PLASTIC?
I'M NOT IN A POSITION TO ANSWER THAT AT THIS TIME.
SUPERMARKET
LAS VEGAS SUN 2020
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MIKE SMITH

EDITORIAL

Facing facts: In support of Facebook's more robust moderation standards

While the world continues to battle a biological pathogen, two dangerous information viruses just got a big, albeit belated, setback: Facebook has announced it will no longer tolerate QAnon conspiracy theories, or people denying the historical reality of the Holocaust of 6 million Jews, or paid advertisements from anti-vaxxer groups.

The moves are welcome signs that the online community, with nearly 3 billion members, is finally taking more seriously its responsibility to exercise its judgment and deem some ideas so false and hateful and toxic, they have no business helping them spread.

Over the years, Mark Zuckerberg's company has stumbled repeatedly in trying to determine when it should be a self-regulating free-for-all and what kinds of communications it should seek to root out from the top down. Pornography and extreme gore have long been banned, at least in theory; so too, terrorist incitement.

The thorniest section of the briar patch regards truth and lies. We wouldn't want Facebook to start deciding, for instance, that astrologers or Scientologists or Santa Claus enthusiasts can't trade content, or to require a five-person team to prescreen your claim that you've just grown the biggest tomato in the county.

So too, the vast majority of disagreements between politicians should be hashed out between candidates and campaigns. If Donald Trump says that Dr. Tony Fauci used to staunchly oppose mask-wearing or Joe Biden says the trade deficit with China is higher than it was before—both misleading or false claims—it's not for Facebook to play arbiter. With hundreds of debatable claims in thousands of races, that would untenably hinder speech.

But lies designed to undermine the election itself should be verboten. And when the Trump campaign circulated an ad with false image of Biden wearing an earpiece, Facebook should have swiftly struck it. Deep-fake videos of either candidate must also be disallowed, especially when Facebook is profiting off promoting them.

Not all lies are created equal. Algorithms are horrible at telling the difference. Humans at Facebook must.

(c)2020 New York Daily News

Fraud and ineptitude are undermining COVID relief

By TIMOTHY L. O'BRIEN
Bloomberg Opinion

Timothy L. O'Brien is a senior columnist for Bloomberg Opinion. *For more articles like this, please visit us at bloomberg.com/opinion*

How easy is it to steal federal funds meant for jobless Americans struggling to survive the COVID-19 economy? It's this easy:

"Using huge databases of stolen personal information, cybercriminals based everywhere from Nigeria to London have pocketed an estimated $8 billion meant for people forced out of work due to the coronavirus so far," Katy Murphy and Rebecca Rainey wrote in Politico on Monday.

That's probably just the tip of the iceberg. In an August report, the Labor Department's inspector general said that at least $26 billion of the $260 billion in extra federal support Congress steered toward unemployed workers since last spring will get scooped up by scammers.

A major reason worker aid is getting stolen, according to Murphy and Rainey's reporting, is that state employment agencies charged with distributing the funds locally are running outdated systems that aren't very good at vetting aid applications. Congress also permitted federal aid applicants to get funds without having to fully verify their identities. Fraudsters around the globe have found it easy to gin up names of phony employers, apply for funding, and make off with their loot before anyone is the wiser. While state agencies have caught some of these criminals, the unprecedented volume of scams has allowed for lots of successful pickpocketing.

The Labor Department's inspector general also pointed out another reason that Congress is at fault: In its well-intentioned rush last spring to provide COVID-19 relief—the most massive federal rescue program of the post-World War II era—federal legislators failed to give states adequate guidance about how to anticipate and combat fraud.

As lawmakers and the White House still struggle to get their arms around the scope and scale of another round of much-needed federal relief for workers and their families, plugging holes in the system should be front of mind. A new agreement among Treasury Secretary Steven Mnuchin, House Speaker Nancy Pelosi and Senate Majority Leader Mitch McConnell seems a long way off, but haphazard oversight of huge amounts of federal funding has scarred the effort ever since it was launched.

Remember all that Paycheck Protection Program funding that was meant to help small businesses but somehow found its way into the hands of publicly traded companies such as Shake Shack Inc., large operators such as McDonald's franchisees, sports behemoths such as the Los Angeles Lakers and insiders in the federal government? How did that happen? Well, the federal apparatus that Mnuchin runs and which doles out the funds hasn't been minding the store. It's not much more complicated than that.

According to a recent Washington Post analysis of $4 trillion of CARES Act funding—a sum that exceeds the cost of the 18-year-old war in Afghanistan—workers received only about $884 billion, or roughly one-fifth the total amount. Huge piles of money went to affluent Americans or companies that laid off the very workers the federal aid was meant to protect. A full accounting of how $670 billion in PPP funding was allocated hasn't been completed, but as the Post noted, companies were not "compelled to use it to protect paychecks—and many didn't."

A Bloomberg News analysis in July noted that the applications for some 4.9 million PPP loans that had been distributed at that point were riddled with perplexing, non-standardized responses that made it difficult to track how the money was allocated. Jobs numbers associated with at least 20% of the PPP loans were dubious.

It's still not clear to me why the Treasury Department didn't make direct PPP payments to workers rather than involve business owners, the SBA and banks as intermediaries. Every extra conduit in the process adds to its complexity and therefore to the possibility of errors or fraud.

For example, JP Morgan Chase & Co., one of the biggest banks involved in distributing PPP funds to qualified recipients, recently disclosed that it's investigating whether some of its own employees may have illegally abetted schemes involving the misuse of the funds. In an internal memo, the bank said it has seen "instances of customers misusing Paycheck Protection Program loans, unemployment benefits and other government programs" and that some "employees have fallen short, too."

Clearly, the process for distributing aid needs to be more transparent and have more sophisticated oversight than it's had so far.

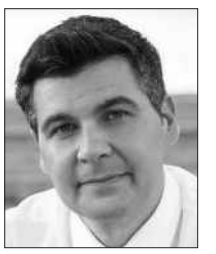
See FRAUD on Next Page

EDITORIAL POLICY Letters to the editor must include the NAME, VILLAGE ADDRESS, and CONTACT NUMBER of the contributor. Letters that do not have these information will immediately be trashed. Contributions consisting of 500 words or less have more chances of getting published. The *Saipan Tribune* reserves the right to publish a contribution or not; the right to edit submissions for length, accuracy, and clarity; and the right to publish and distribute contributions in print, electronic, or other media formats. Submissions may be sent via snail mail to the 2nd Floor, JP Center, Beach Road, Garapan, Saipan, 96950; fax (670) 235-3740; e-mail to editor@saipantribune.com; or through our website at www.saipantribune.com.

5 reasons why heirs fight—and what you can do about it

FINE PRINT

By JORDAN SUNDELL
Special to the Saipan Tribune



Jordan Sundell is a lawyer. His practice primarily focuses on business, real estate, estate planning, and asset protection. You can find his columns here every other Tuesday as well as on The Fine Print on Facebook. You can contact Mr. Sundell via this newspaper at editor@saipantribune.com or 235-6397/235-2440.

More than two centuries ago, Ben Franklin allegedly said, "if you want to know what people are like, share an inheritance with them." Not much has changed in the intervening years. Inheritance remains one of the most revealing tests of a person's character. And, sadly, too few earn a passing grade.

But, fortunately, you can take steps today that will reduce the risk of your family failing its test when you pass away. To help with that, below are five common reasons why heirs fight and how to prevent those situations from happening.

First, heirs are more likely to fight if they are unpleasantly surprised. For example, let's say that dad promised the youngest son that he would get the family car. But when dad passes away, it turns out that his will says nothing about the car or, worse, gave it to someone else. What happens if the other siblings want to comply with the will, meaning that the youngest son doesn't get the car? Anger. Frustration. And a potential fissure between loved ones. After all, the youngest son believes that dad wanted him to have the car—he said so.

The easiest way to prevent this situation is with communication. Tell people your intentions and then keep your will or trust up to date. You may also want to give written copies of your wishes to your heirs. That way everyone knows what to expect and has had the chance to talk with you in advance.

Second, heirs who either don't know or don't like each other are more likely to quarrel. Maybe a sibling moved away and became distant. Perhaps you remarried and your spouse is not close to your kids. Or something else. Whatever the reason, weak or distrustful relationships among heirs can be a breeding ground for disputes.

So, what can we do to untangle these thorny situations? A couple things. At a personal level, we can try to nurture better relationships. But at the end of the day, people get to choose who they like and who they don't. Meanwhile, at a legal level, we can make it less attractive for those relationship problems to bloom into full-blown legal challenges by including a no-contest clause in our will or trust. This clause disinherits someone if they dispute your will or trust without a compelling reason (such as fraud). So, an heir needs to think hard before escalating a dispute into a slow, expensive legal battle.

Third, some heirs are greedy. And if they also happen to be the person acting as administrator or executor of your estate, they can act on that greed in various ways. Sometimes that means racking up unnecessary hours working on the probate and then billing the estate for that work. Other times it means bullying people with threats of chiseling or taking a person's inheritance if they don't do as the administrator demands.

How do we minimize this kind of greed? In three ways. For starters, appoint an honest administrator. Then write in your will or trust that the person administering your estate won't get paid for doing so. And, finally, communicate your wishes with all of the heirs in advance. Doing all three greatly diminishes the opportunity for a greedy heir to engage in shenanigans.

Fourth, sometimes a will or trust is not so clear, leading to legitimate disagreements over what was meant. In some cases, that's because the lawyer did a poor job writing the document. But often it is because the document gets larded up with too many contingencies. For instance, let's say that you own a house and want your spouse to live there until they die or remarry. And then the property goes to the oldest sibling. But if the property is ever sold, the proceeds get distributed equally to all of the siblings (if your spouse had already died or remarried) or equally to all the siblings minus a $1,000 monthly payment (plus a cost-of-living adjustment) to the spouse while they remain alive and unmarried. Hopefully all of that was clear. But clear or not, the volume of scenarios opens the door to more disagreements than it closes. For example, what happens if your spouse doesn't formally remarry but has a long-term partner? Or what about the cost-of-living adjustment—how often should the monthly payment be adjusted?

To minimize fights over interpreting the will or trust, it's often wise to err on the side of simplicity. So, if your will or trust feels a bit convoluted, there's a decent chance that it has been poorly drafted or is in need of simplification.

A fifth reason heirs fight is because some of them don't follow the rules. Too often, for instance, someone dies and the next day some of the relatives start raiding the house. As a result, by the time the legal process has begun, a few relatives have already walked off with all of the valuable personal property. This kind of theft is a great way to forever destroy a family. And it's far too common.

This problem, like so many others, can be reduced through proactive communication. Tell people how you want your property to be divided. Write it down. Email it to people. And then delegate who you want to be responsible for overseeing the process. The better you communicate these things in advance, the less likely your house will turn into an Indiana Jones-like treasure hunt shortly after you pass away.

If you would like to give your heirs the gift of peace, rather than seeding their futures with conflict, take the time to set up an estate plan and then share that plan with your family. If you need help with that, contact a qualified estate-planning attorney.

This column is for informational purposes only and is not intended to be taken as legal advice. For your specific case, consult a lawyer.

'Herd immunity' idea rears its head again—and still deserves to be struck down

By CLARENCE PAGE
Chicago Tribune

Clarence Page is a member of the Chicago Tribune *Editorial Board. Readers may send him email at cpage@chicagotribune.com.*

Although he's reluctant to say it out loud, President Donald Trump appears to be disturbingly close to embracing the ideas behind "herd immunity," which in my view has been best described as the "let 'em die" strategy.

Put simply, herd immunity describes conditions in which enough people are immune to an infectious disease, such as COVID-19, to provide indirect protection to those who are not immune.

That's not necessarily a bad thing, if you already have a vaccine and the ability to conduct a mass immunization program. That's how we licked polio, measles, smallpox and numerous other communicable diseases.

Trying to build herd immunity without a vaccine, however, is about as sensible as roller skating blindfolded along the edge of the Grand Canyon.

But as much as he has largely avoided using the phrase "herd immunity," the president has mocked masks and keeps urging America to "open up" to rescue the economy, which fits well with the small subset of scientists who have an important ally in the White House, Dr. Scott Atlas. The neuroradiologist has no background in infectious diseases, yet he has become one of Trump's top health advisers, all but nudging aside actual infectious disease experts such as Dr. Anthony Fauci.

And, as much as the herd immunity approach without a vaccine has been roundly rejected by scientists worldwide, the White House gave the idea new legs on Oct. 13, according to The New York Times, when the administration endorsed a document called the Great Barrington Declaration.

Written by three academics with views that run contrary to mainstream scientific opinion, the strategy involves allowing the virus to spread through the population while trying to shield the most vulnerable, such as the elderly and those with preexisting health conditions.

Since I happen to be in that senior citizen group with a preexisting health condition, I take great personal interest in this story.

I took similar interest in a recent study from Stanford University that found less than 10% of the U.S. population has antibodies to the new coronavirus. That means about 156 million more Americans would need to get infected to reach an estimated 50% threshold for herd immunity from natural infection.

And that's just one of many estimates for fighting this new disease at a time when experts are still learning about what might make a patient like Trump immune or how long immunity lasts.

After experiencing the sorrow of more than 8 million cases in this country, it is breathtaking to imagine 156 million.

Yet Trump, who receives higher quality health care than almost anyone on the planet, offers little comfort with his cavalier attitude toward masks, among other sensible precautions.

"I'm OK with masks—I tell people, 'Wear masks,' " he said in his Thursday night town hall event on NBC, televised at the same time his Democrat challenger Joe Biden participated in a town hall on ABC. Yet he couldn't resist adding the false statistic he said he heard "just the other day" that 85% of the people wearing masks contract the virus.

That is wrong, but I'm sure he made people who refuse to wear masks, particularly those who are in his base, feel good.

"Open your states," he declared to a Wednesday rally in Iowa. "The cure cannot be worse than the problem itself."

He's been using that line since mid-March. But, his happy talk was somewhat chilled by Pfizer's announcement Friday that the pharmaceutical company would not apply for emergency authorization of its coronavirus vaccine before the third week of November, too late to meet the president's assertion that a vaccine would be ready before Election Day.

"Remember, when you catch it, you get better, and you're immune," he said in a Fox News interview recently. I'm happy for his good fortune. But his cheer defies his stunning lack of conclusive research and the cruel reality that hundreds of thousands have died after contracting it.

I feel very fortunate in these pandemic times to be able to work from home through the internet. But we cannot survive for long as a society that is half-online and half stuck with workers exposed to the virus.

Rushing ourselves through a transition to post-pandemic living while there's still a pandemic, though, is a recipe for even more economic catastrophe. As the president said, the cure should not be worse than the disease. But the disease is still bad enough for us to respect its power, even as we try to cure it.

FRAUD

From Page 8

At the very least, states need technology upgrades and federal resources to combat fraud. In an August report, the Labor Department's inspector general recommended that one of the agency's divisions, the Employment and Training Administration, take four other steps: partner more closely with employers to monitor applicants' qualifications, provide better oversight, get more accurate estimates of the scale of improper payments, and require states to help detect fraud by providing access to unemployment claims data.

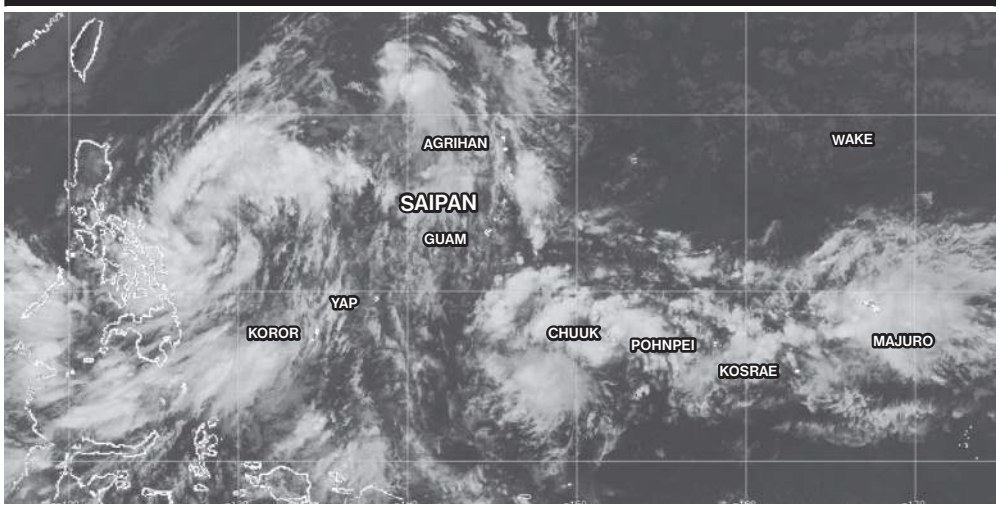
These common-sense recommendations will continue to be important if another big round of COVID-19 relief passes. States and the federal government have a responsibility to make sure that expensive COVID-relief programs—funded by taxpayers—are protected.

The Weather

5-DAY FORECAST FOR SAIPAN AND TINIAN

TODAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
Mostly cloudy. Scattered showers and isolated thunderstorms in the morning, then isolated showers and thunderstorms in the afternoon. East winds 15 to 20 mph.	Partly cloudy with isolated showers. Southeast winds 10 to 15 mph.	Partly cloudy with isolated showers.	Mostly cloudy with isolated showers and thunderstorms.	Mostly cloudy with isolated showers and thunderstorms.
88° 78°	88° 78°	88° 78°	88° 78°	88° 78°

YESTERDAY'S SATELLITE IMAGE



PICTURE TIME: 8:28 AM, MONDAY, OCTOBER 19, 2020

Western North Pacific between equator and 25N from 130E to 180.

Satellite shows scattered showers moving through the Marianas and surrounding waters, now pulling away to the west. The buoys reveal combined seas of 4 to 6 feet composed mainly of northeast trade-wind swell and east wind waves.

Satellite image and accompanying information are provided by the National Weather Service. For an updated weather forecast, visit the National Weather Service Guam homepage: www.prh.noaa.gov/guam/

MICRONESIA		▲ ▼ °F
Guam and Rota	Thunderstorms	86° / 78°
Palau	Thunderstorms	84° / 78°
Yap	Thunderstorms	85° / 78°
Chuuk	Thunderstorms	86° / 79°
Pohnpei	Thunderstorms	86° / 76°
Kosrae	Thunderstorms	86° / 76°
Majuro	Thunderstorms	86° / 81°

DAY	SUNRISE	SUNSET
Today	6:09 AM	5:53 PM
Wednesday	6:09 AM	5:53 PM
Thursday	6:10 AM	5:52 PM
Friday	6:10 AM	5:52 PM
Saturday	6:10 AM	5:51 PM

DAY	MOONRISE	MOONSET	MOONRISE
Today	9:26 AM	9:02 PM	-
Wednesday	10:29 AM	9:59 PM	-
Thursday	11:29 AM	10:58 PM	-
Friday	12:25 PM	11:55 PM	-
Saturday	1:16 PM	-	-

AROUND THE GLOBE		▲ ▼ °F
Auckland	Cloudy	63° / 55°
Beijing	Cloudy	64° / 48°
Hong Kong	Sunny	84° / 70°
Honolulu	Windy	85° / 75°
London	Cloudy	59° / 54°
Los Angeles	Mostly Sunny	76° / 59°
Manila	Thunderstorms	88° / 79°
Melbourne	Cloudy	61° / 50°
Miami	Thunderstorms	84° / 79°
New York	Sunny	74° / 54°
Osaka	Cloudy	70° / 63°
Paris	Mostly Cloudy	63° / 57°
Busan	Windy	70° / 63°
Rome	Partly Cloudy	77° / 54°
Salem	Mostly Sunny	80° / 55°
San Francisco	Mostly Sunny	58° / 48°
Seoul	Sunny	70° / 46°
Tokyo	Showers	66° / 61°
Washington, DC	Sunny	75° / 53°

TIDES: SAIPAN HARBOR TODAY		FEET
3:56 AM	LOW TIDE	-0.39
10:45 AM	HIGH TIDE	1.93
4:28 PM	LOW TIDE	1.03
9:25 PM	HIGH TIDE	1.87

STOP THE SPREAD

The Governor's COVID-19 Task Force and Commonwealth Healthcare Corp. continue to encourage residents within the Marianas to practice social distancing, which means avoiding close contact with people in order to avoid catching the virus yourself and to avoid passing it on to others.

- Stay home as much as possible. Avoid unnecessary travel or public places.
- Avoid social gatherings in groups of more than 10.
- Choose drive-thru, take-out, or delivery options, or outdoor seating, if available, when dining in.
- Send only one healthy adult from the household run necessary errands, such as getting groceries or picking up medications. Leave children, elderly, and other vulnerable people at home as much as possible. When returning home from an errand, wash your hands before doing anything else.
- Older adults and people with chronic medical conditions are at higher risk of getting very sick from this illness. People at high risk should stay at home as much as possible.
- Create a household plan of action, https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/prepare/checklisthousehold-ready.html
- Ensure a 30-day supply of all medicines.

Continue good hand hygiene

- Wash your hands for at least 20 seconds with soap and water, avoid touching your face, cover coughs and sneezes with a tissue or your sleeve.
- Use an alcohol-based hand sanitizer if soap and water are not readily available.

Know the signs and symptoms of COVID-19 and what to do if you become symptomatic

- Stay home when you are sick and if you recently traveled to a place with COVID-19. Self-quarantine means:
- ❑ Choosing a room in your house that can be used to separate sick household members from others.
- ❑ Washing your hands often with soap and water for at least 20 seconds. If soap and water are not available, use an alcohol-based hand sanitizer.
- ❑ Avoiding touching your eyes, nose, and mouth with unwashed hands.
- ❑ Limiting visitors

CHCC appreciates the patience and understanding of the community at this time. To obtain general information about the CNMI COVID-19 response, contact the Governor's COVID-19 Task Force Hotline at 287-0046, 287-0489, 287-1089. These numbers are available Monday to Sunday, 7:30am - 4:30pm.

For medical information about COVID-19, reach out to the COVID-19 Infoline at the following numbers: 285-1672/1352. These numbers are available Monday to Friday, 7:30am - 4:30pm.

For mental health support and helpful tips during a crisis, call the Mental Health Support Line at 285-1856, 323-6560, 323-6561 These numbers are available Monday to Friday, 7:30am - 4:30 pm. For the 24/7 Disaster Distress Helpline, call SAMSHA at 1-800-985-5990.

For more information about DIY face coverings, visit https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/prevent-getting-sick/cloth-face-cover.html

For more information about CHCC programs, follow CHCC on Facebook, Instagram, Twitter at @cnmichcc, check out our website at www.chcc.gov.mp or call us at (670) 234-8950.

For more information on the Governor's COVID-19 Task Force, visit www.governor.gov.mpand, follow @GovernorCNMI on Facebook, Instagram, and Twitter.

This health advisory may be found online at http://www.chcc.gov.mp/pressrelease.html and at www.governor.gov.mp/covid-19.

Rumor control

During crises like this, oftentimes the spread of misinformation is just as dangerous as the virus itself. The CNMI is reminded to only share official and verified notices, press releases, and advisories from the Governor's COVID-19 Task Force and CHCC.

Source: Office of the Governor

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FLIGHT SCHEDULE AS OF SEPTEMBER 11, 2020

DEPARTURES

SAIPAN-GUAM (GUM)

UA117	7:30am	8:10am	1, 4
UA117	7:50am	8:30am	6

SAIPAN-MANILA (MNL)

UA117/183	7:30am	9:10pm	1 via Guam

GUAM-MANILA (MNL)

UA183	7:25pm	9:10pm	1 via Guam
UA183	9:05pm	10:50pm	5 via Guam

ARRIVALS

GUAM (GUM)-SAIPAN

UA174	5:50am	6:31am	1, 4
UA174	6:15am	6:56am	6

MANILA (MNL)-SAIPAN

UA184/174	11:45pm	6:56am+1	5 via Guam

MANILA (MNL)-GUAM

UA184	10:25pm	4:25am+1	1 via Guam
UA184	11:45pm	5:33am+1	5 via Guam

LEGEND: Days: Monday (1), Tuesday (2), Wednesday (3), Thursday (4), Friday (5), Saturday (6) and Sunday (7); UA United Airlines • ETD: Estimated Time of Departure; ETA: Estimated Time of Arrival. *(The Saipan Tribune is not responsible for any changes in the schedule.)*

STAR MARIANAS AIR, INC.

FLIGHT SCHEDULE AS OF OCTOBER 8, 2020

SAIPAN TO ROTA

FLIGHT #	DEPARTURE	ARRIVAL	FREQUENCY
1301	8:30AM	9:00AM	Mon/Tues/Wed/Thurs/Fri
1302	11:00AM	11:30AM	Mon/Tues/Wed/Thurs/Fri
1303	3:30PM	4:00PM	Mon/Wed/Fri

ROTA TO SAIPAN

FLIGHT #	DEPARTURE	ARRIVAL	FREQUENCY
3101	9:30AM	10:00AM	Mon/Tues/Wed/Thurs/Fri
3102	12:00AM	12:30AM	Mon/Tues/Wed/Thurs/Fri
3103	4:30PM	5:00PM	Mon/Wed/Fri

ROTA TO GUAM

FLIGHT #	DEPARTURE	ARRIVAL	FREQUENCY
3401	12:15	12:45	Temporarily Unavailable

GUAM TO ROTA

FLIGHT #	DEPARTURE	ARRIVAL	FREQUENCY
4301	13:00	13:30	Temporarily Unavailable

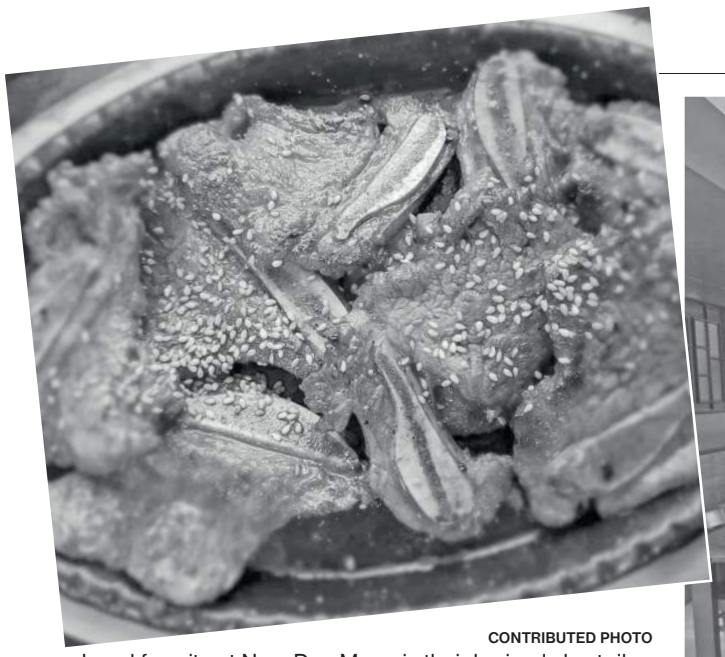
SAIPAN TO TINIAN

FLIGHT #	DEPARTURE	ARRIVAL	FREQUENCY
1201	7:00	7:15	Temporarily Unavailable
1202	8:00	8:15	Daily
1203	9:00	9:15	Daily
1204	10:00	10:15	Temporarily Unavailable
1205	11:00	11:15	Temporarily Unavailable
1206	12:00	12:15	Temporarily Unavailable
1207	13:00	13:15	Temporarily Unavailable
1208	14:00	14:15	Temporarily Unavailable
1209	15:00	15:15	Daily
1210	16:00	16:15	Daily
1211	17:00	17:15	Temporarily Unavailable
1212	18:00	18:15	Temporarily Unavailable

TINIAN TO SAIPAN

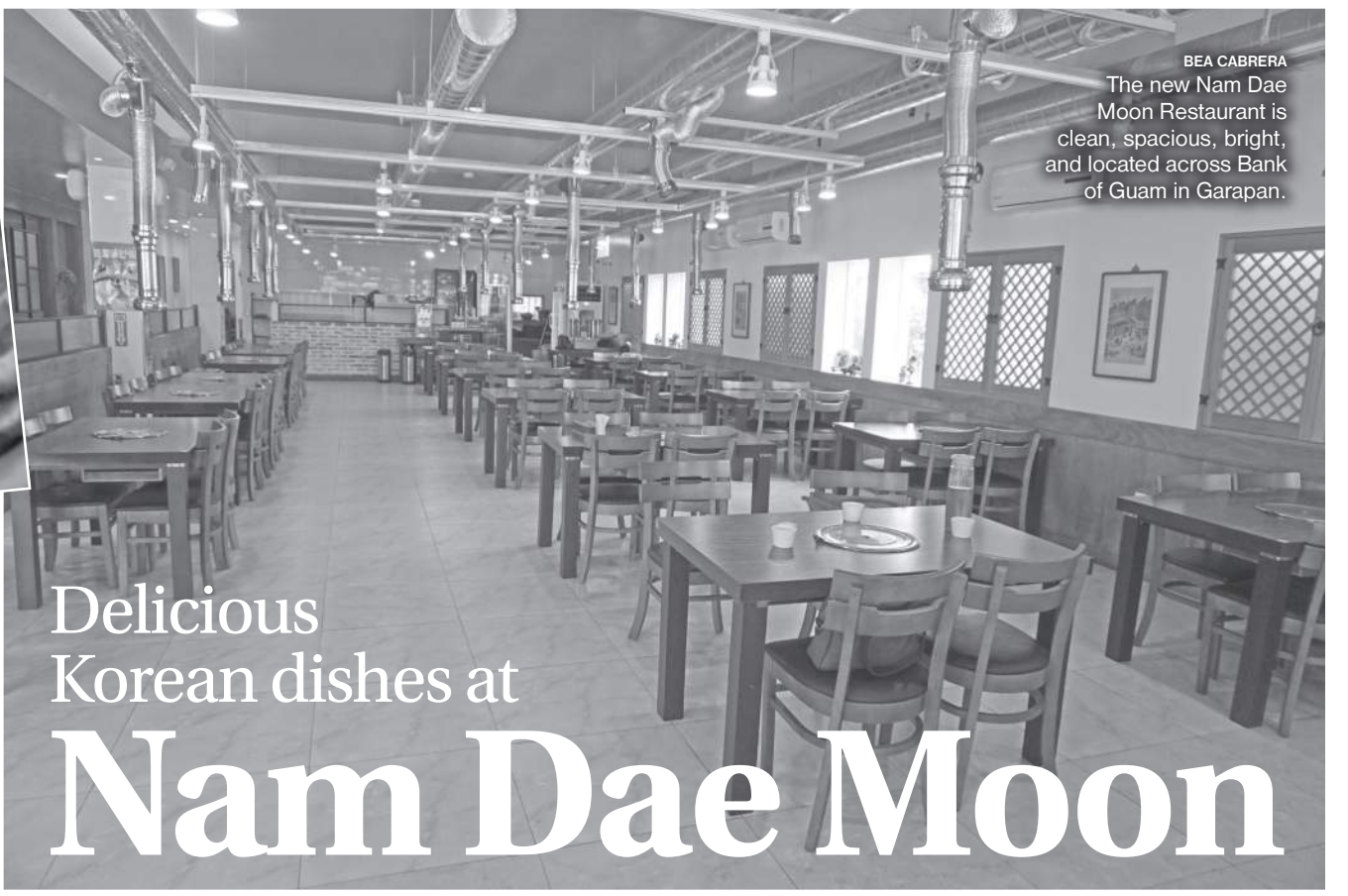
FLIGHT #	DEPARTURE	ARRIVAL	FREQUENCY
2101	7:30	7:45	Temporarily Unavailable
2102	8:30	8:45	Daily
2103	9:30	9:45	Daily
2104	10:30	10:45	Temporarily Unavailable
2105	11:30	11:45	Temporarily Unavailable
2106	12:30	12:45	Temporarily Unavailable
2107	13:30	13:45	Temporarily Unavailable
2108	14:30	14:45	Temporarily Unavailable
2109	15:30	15:45	Daily
2110	16:30	16:45	Daily
2111	17:30	17:45	Temporarily Unavailable
2112	18:30	18:45	Temporarily Unavailable

Business



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO
Local favorite at Nam Dae Moon is their braised short ribs.

BEA CABRERA
"We always want to put customer first," said Nam Dae Moon Korean Restaurant owner Mi Yun Lee Kim with one of her friendly staff in photo.



BEA CABRERA
The new Nam Dae Moon Restaurant is clean, spacious, bright, and located across Bank of Guam in Garapan.

Delicious Korean dishes at
Nam Dae Moon

By BEA CABRERA
beacabrerasaipan@gmail.com
CORRESPONDENT

"Nam dae moon" in Korean means south great door that bids travelers a good entry and journey to South Korea. In the same way, Nam Dae Moon Korean Restaurant located in Garapan welcomes the community to enter their doors and experience delicious, hearty, and humble Korean dishes cooked like it was made at home.

When asked what her specialties are, owner Mi Yun Lee Kim said that they don't really have specialty dishes. "We serve various regular Korean dishes but what sets us apart from the others is that people love our food because it reminds them of the comfort of home cooking…Our restaurant is also conducive to pleasant meal time with family or friends because it is clean, spacious, bright, and the design is like what most restaurants look like on Korea," she said.

"Our regular customers are mostly locals… Our original restaurant was located in another part of Garapan but when we moved to Beach Road also in Garapan, loyal customers followed us and have been coming here. When we had tourists, business was very busy. Today, they are missed but we are happy to serve our local customers every single day," she added.

Kim moved to Saipan in 1997 with her husband. They have had many business ventures throughout the years but putting up Nam Dae Moon has been her joy. "Of all the businesses we had, I really love this one…my heart is in service and we want our 'customer first' mentality to reflect in the food we serve and how we customer care for customers.… I always want to be the best and not fail when it comes to taking care of customers," she said.

"We take to heart what feedback we get from our customers because we always want to improve and be better. In fact, I encourage customers to say any observation during their meal so if there is something that they don't like, we can improve it while they are in the restaurant, " she said.

The first Nam Dae Moon Korean Restaurant opened in 2016 but moved to their new location across Bank of Guam in December last year. "Two months into operations, the COVID-19 pandemic hit and we had no choice but to close temporarily. We re-opened in May and started take-out orders and when regulations changed, we started taking in dine-in customers and were happy to see familiar faces," she said

"We follow COVID19 Task Force health guidelines in our daily operations. We make sure that dine-in customers sign their names and numbers, get their temperature, alcohol and hand sanitizers are visible everywhere in the restaurant, and social distancing rules are in place…Our staff works really hard and their good attitude at work makes customers at ease and comfortable when they dine with us," she added.

Many of Nam Dae Moon Korean's dishes are composed of meat, seafood, and vegetables. Grilling your own meat is also an option. "Many customers want to cook their meat which is good as we have premium beef ribs, short ribs, bulgogi, and pork belly…favorites in our menu include braised short ribs, chili shrimps, spicy stir fried chicken feet, and many more," Kim said.

"We also welcome private get togethers for meetings or parties as we have three rooms that can sit 18, 14, and 13 guests and we offer 20-25% local discount. We can send our menu via Watsapp upon customer's request for take-out or dine-in if they want to order ahead," Kim added.

Nam Dae Moon Korean Restaurant is open from Monday to Saturday, 11am-9 pm, and Sunday, 5pm-9pm. For more information, call (670) 233-2325, (670) 483-0008, and (670) 783-3003, and email leeroyal42@gmail.com

Is Facebook really ready for the 2020 election?

Ever since Russian agents and other opportunists abused its platform in an attempt to manipulate the 2016 U.S. presidential election, Facebook has insisted—repeatedly—that it's learned its lesson and is no longer a conduit for misinformation, voter suppression and election disruption.

But it has been a long and halting journey for the social network. Critical outsiders, as well as some of Facebook's own employees, say the company's efforts to revise its rules and tighten its safeguards remain wholly insufficient to the task, despite it having spent billions on the project. As for why, they point to the company's persistent unwillingness to act decisively over much of that time.

"Am I concerned about the election? I'm terrified," said Roger McNamee, a Silicon Valley venture capitalist and an early Facebook investor turned vocal critic. "At the company's current scale, it's a clear and present danger to democracy and national security."

The company's rhetoric has certainly gotten an update. CEO Mark Zuckerberg now casually references possible outcomes that were unimaginable in 2016—among them, possible civil unrest and potentially a disputed election that Facebook could easily make even worse—as challenges the platform now faces.

"This election is not going to be business as usual," Zuckerberg wrote in a September Facebook post in which he outlined Facebook's efforts to encourage voting and remove misinformation from its service. "We all have a responsibility to protect our democracy."

Yet for years Facebook executives have seemed to be caught off guard whenever their platform—created to connect the world—was used for malicious purposes. Zuckerberg has offered multiple apologies over the years, as if no one could have predicted that people would use Facebook to live-stream murders and suicides, incite ethnic cleansings, promote fake cancer cures or attempt to steal elections.

While other platforms like Twitter and YouTube have also struggled to address misinformation and hateful content, Facebook stands apart for its reach and scale and, compared to many other platforms, its slower response to the challenges identified in 2016.

In the immediate aftermath of President Donald Trump's election, Zuckerberg offered a remarkably tone-deaf quip regarding the notion that "fake news" spread on Facebook could have influenced the 2016 election, calling it "a pretty crazy idea." A week later, he walked back the comment. ***(AP)***

US retail sales grow for 5th month in a row

NEW YORK (AP)—Retail sales rose strongly in September, the fifth straight month of growth, as Americans spent more on clothing, cars and sporting goods.

U.S. retail sales jumped 1.9% last month, the U.S. Commerce Department said Friday. That's more than double what was economists were expected. And it's up from the 0.6% increase in August.

"Americans raced to the stores in September," said BMO Capital Markets analyst Sal Guatieri, in a note to investors, adding that they were "buying just about everything in sight, especially clothing."

Sales at clothing stores rose 11%, accounting for much of September's overall growth. Even sales at department stores, which have been falling out of fashion with shoppers for years, rose 9.7% last month.

At auto dealerships and auto part shops, sales were up 3.6%. And those looking to go camping or buy exercise equipment for their homes sent sales at sporting goods stores 5.7% higher.

Consumer spending makes up two-thirds of all U.S. economic activity, and is watched closely to gauge the country's economic health.

Retail sales have been recovering since plunging in the spring as stores and malls were ordered closed to help prevent the spread of the coronavirus. And spending has continued even after more than 20 million unemployed Americans lost a $600 boost in their weekly unemployment checks at the end of July.

Friday's retail sales report covers only about a third of overall consumer spending. Services such as haircuts and hotel stays are not included in the report. All of those types of businesses have been badly hurt by the pandemic.

Whether people will keep shopping remains to be seen. The unemployment rate is still high, at 7.8% last month. Some economists say more federal checks for out-of-work Americans are needed to sustain spending. And some say rising COVID-19 cases could keep people away from stores.

Nation

Trump, Biden go on offense in states they're trying to flip

CARSON CITY, Nev. (AP)—President Donald Trump and Democratic rival Joe Biden went on offense over the weekend, as both campaigned in states they are trying to flip during the Nov. 3 election that is just over two weeks away.

Trump began his Sunday in Nevada, making a rare visit to church before a fundraiser and an evening rally in Carson City. Once considered a battleground, Nevada has not swung for a Republican presidential contender since 2004.

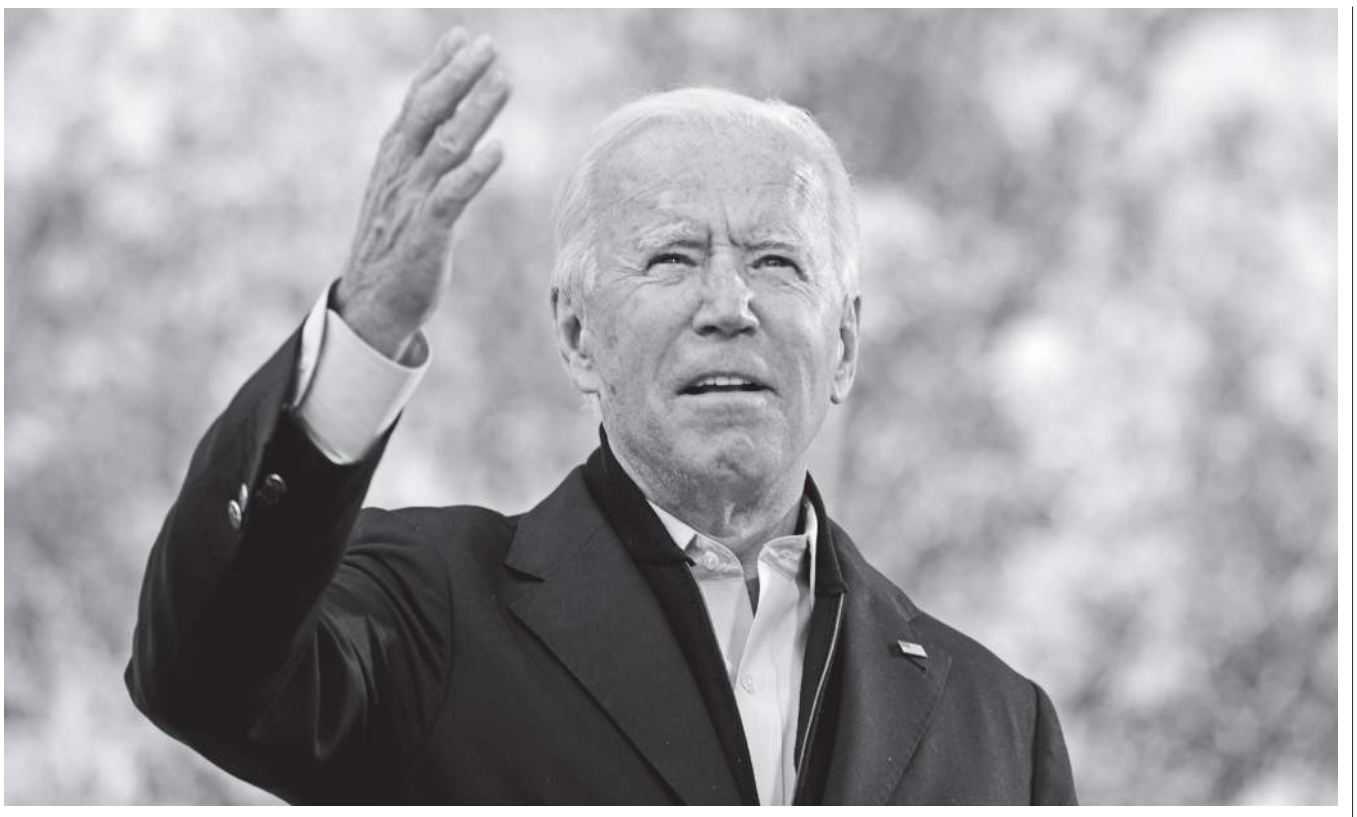
The rally drew thousands of supporters who sat elbow to elbow, cheering Trump and booing Biden and the press. The vast majority wore no masks to guard against the coronavirus, though cases in the state are on the rise, with more than 1,000 new infections reported Saturday. The president, as he often does, warned that a Biden election would lead to further lockdowns and at one point appeared to mock Biden for saying he would listen to scientists.

"He'll listen to the scientists. If I listened totally to the scientists, we would right now have a country that would be in a massive depression," Trump said.

Biden, a practicing Catholic, attended Mass in Delaware before campaigning in North Carolina, where a Democrat has not won in a presidential race since Barack Obama in 2008.

Both candidates are trying to make inroads in states that could help secure a path to victory, but the dynamics of the race are remarkably stable. Biden enjoys a significant advantage in national polls, while carrying a smaller edge in battleground surveys.

Earlier in the day, Trump sat in the front row at the nondenominational International Church of Las Vegas as the senior associate pastor, Denise Goulet, said God told her early that morning that the president would secure a second term.



Democratic presidential candidate former Vice President Joe Biden speaks during a campaign event at Riverside High School in Durham, N.C., Sunday, Oct. 18, 2020. AP

"At 4:30, the Lord said to me, 'I am going to give your president a second win,'" she said, telling Trump, "you will be the president again."

Trump spoke briefly, saying "I love going to churches" and that it was "a great honor" to attend the service. He dropped a wad of $20 bills in the collection plate before leaving.

The message was far different in both style and substance later in the day, when Biden attended a virtual discussion with African American faith leaders from around the country.

Biden held up a rosary, which he said he carries in his pocket every day, and described it as "what the Irish call a prisoner's rosary" since it was small enough to be smuggled into prisons.

"I happen to be a Roman Catholic," Biden said. "I don't pray for God to protect me. I pray to God to give me strength to see what other people are dealing with."

Earlier, at a drive-in rally in Durham, North Carolina, Biden focused heavily on promoting criminal justice changes to combat institutional racism and promised to help build wealth in the Black community.

He noted that Trump had said at one of his rallies that the country had turned the corner on the pandemic.

"As my grandfather would say, this guy's gone around the bend if he thinks we've turned the corner. Turning the corner? Things are getting worse," Biden said.

In addition to public polling that indicates Biden has an edge, the former vice president enjoys another considerable advantage over Trump: money.

Trump raked in $12 million during a fundraiser Sunday afternoon at the Newport Beach home of top GOP donor and tech mogul Palmer Luckey, which also featured a performance by the Beach Boys.

But over the past four months, Biden has raised over $1 billion, a massive amount of money that has eclipsed Trump's once-overwhelming cash advantage.

That's become apparent in advertising, where Biden and his Democratic allies are on pace to spend twice as much as Trump and the Republicans in the closing days of the race, according to data from the ad tracking firm Kantar/CMAG.

Though Trump has pulled back from advertising in Midwestern states that secured his 2016 win, he's invested heavily elsewhere, including North Carolina, where he is on pace to slightly outspend Biden in the days ahead.

In Nevada, which Trump came close to winning in 2016, Democrats are set to outspend Trump in the closing days by a more than 3-to-1 ratio.

Trump's visit to the state is part of an aggressive schedule of campaign events, where he has leaned heavily into fear tactics.

Trump's Carson City rally was held at an airport with a golden scrub brush-covered hill providing a dramatic backdrop. He relived fond moments from his 2016 campaign against Hillary Clinton, revisited his long-running feud with NFL players and went on an extended rant about water management policy, which he blamed for people having to "flush their toilet 15 times."

Millions more virus rapid tests, but are results reported?

WASHINGTON (AP)—After struggling to ramp up coronavirus testing, the U.S. can now screen several million people daily, thanks to a growing supply of rapid tests. But the boom comes with a new challenge: keeping track of the results.

All U.S. testing sites are legally required to report their results, positive and negative, to public health agencies. But state health officials say many rapid tests are going unreported, which means some new COVID-19 infections may not be counted.

And the situation could get worse, experts say. The federal government is shipping more than 100 million of the newest rapid tests to states for use in public schools, assisted living centers and other new testing sites.

"Schools certainly don't have the capacity to report these tests," said Dr. Jeffrey Engel of the Council of State and Territorial Epidemiologists. "If it's done at all it's likely going to be paper-based, very slow and incomplete."

Early in the outbreak, nearly all U.S. testing relied on genetic tests that could only be developed at high-tech laboratories. Even under the best circumstances, people had to wait about two to three days to get results. Experts pushed for more "point-of-care" rapid testing that could be done in doctors offices, clinics and other sites to quickly find people who are infected, get them into quarantine and stop the spread.

Beginning in the summer, cheaper, 15-minute tests—which detect viral proteins called antigens on a nasal swab—became available. The first versions still needed to be processed using portable readers. The millions of new tests from Abbott Laboratories now going out to states are even easier to use: they're about the size of a credit card and can be developed with a few drops of chemical solution.

Federal health officials say about half of the nation's daily testing capacity now consists of rapid tests.

Large hospitals and laboratories electronically feed their results to state health departments, but there is no standardized way to report the rapid tests that are often done elsewhere. And state officials have often been unable to track where these tests are being shipped and whether results are being reported.

In Minnesota, officials created a special team to try and get more testing data from nursing homes, schools and other newer testing sites, only to be deluged by faxes and paper files.

"It's definitely a challenge because now we have to do many more things manually than we were with electronic reporting," said Kristen Ehresmann, of the Minnesota Department of Health.

Even before Abbott's newest BinaxNOW rapid tests hit the market last month, undercounting was a concern.

Competitors Quidel and Becton Dickinson have together shipped well over 35 million of their own quick tests since June. But that massive influx of tests hasn't showed up in national testing numbers, which have mostly ranged between 750,000 and 950,000 daily tests for months.

Black officers break from unions over Trump endorsements

PHILADELPHIA (AP)—Police unions nationwide have largely supported President Donald Trump's reelection, amid mass demonstrations over police brutality and accusations of systemic racism—but a number of Black law enforcement officers are speaking out against these endorsements, saying their concerns over entering the 2020 political fray were ignored.

Trump has touted his support from the law enforcement community, which includes endorsements from national, city and state officers' unions—some of which publicly endorsed a political candidate for the first time. He's running on what he calls a "law and order" platform and tapping into a strain of anger and frustration felt by law enforcement who believe they are being unfairly accused of racial discrimination.

There are more than 8,000 law enforcement agencies in the U.S., with large departments holding sway nationally. The number of minority officers in policing has more than doubled in the last three decades, but many departments still have a smaller percentage of Black and Hispanic officers compared to the percentage of the general population those communities make up.

Many fraternal Black police organizations were formed to advocate for equality within police departments but also to focus on how law enforcement affects the wider Black community. There have often been tensions between minority organizations and larger unions, like in August, when the National Association of Black Law Enforcement Officers issued a letter condemning use of deadly force, police misconduct and abuse in communities of color.

While support for the Republican incumbent does not strictly fall along racial lines, many Black officers say the endorsements for Trump don't fairly represent all dues-paying members.

"We are members of these unions, and they don't take into consideration our feelings about Donald J. Trump, then they don't care about us and ... they don't care about our dues," said Rochelle Bilal, the recent past president of the Guardian Civic League of Philadelphia, calling the National Fraternal Order of Police's Trump endorsement an "outrage."

In Celebration of Her New Life

Rose Marie Sonis Pangelinan Camacho

Born on November 07, 1972
Entered the Gates of Heaven on October 08, 2020

She will forever remain in the hearts of her

Mother and Step Father: Rosa Sonis & Angken Xymoon
of Chuuk Micronesia

Husband: Anthony Atalig Camacho

Children: Angelo A. & Jazmin L. Camacho
(Nevaeh Rosa and Alayah Victoria)
Raegine Agnes-Rose A. Camacho
Sebastian David-Anthony A. Camacho
Spencer Jon Pangelinan Palacios
Charisse Pangelinan Camacho

Father-In-Law and Wife: David Tudela Camacho & Siriwan

Siblings and In-Laws (and families):
Gilbert Tainatongo; John S. & Merced B. Pangelinan; Sinforosa T. & Pedro Kaipat; Alexander S. & Joanita S. Pangelinan; Joseph S. Pangelinan & Sylvia Edgar; Yvonne P. & Chrispino Houmwarek; Ceasar & Kabina Pangelinan; S-Chok Pangelinan

Brothers and Sisters In-Law (and families):
Joseph A. Camacho & Lydia Barcinas; Juan A. & Patricia B. Camacho; Dolores C. & Juan Aguon; Francisca A. Camacho; Henry A. & Bridgette DLG. Camacho; Serafin A. & Lillian C. Camacho; Edward A. & Lourdes M. Camacho; David Jr. A. & Effie S. Camacho; Miguel A. & Charlotte DLG. Camacho; Vicente A. Camacho & Elaine Santos

She will also be missed by her numerous aunts, uncles, cousins, nephews, nieces, godchildren, relatives & friends.

As she enters the gates of heaven she is welcomed by her

Father: †Juan San Nicolas Pangelinan
Mother-In-Law: †Rosa Atalig Camacho
Grandparents and In-Laws:
†Jose Wilson Pangelinan (Obo); †Maria San Nicolas Pangelinan; †Melio Meippen & †Osa Ramaram & †Ines Sonis; †Sebastian Taimanao & †Dolores Tudela Camacho; Serafin Mendiola & †Rosario Manglona Atalig
Siblings and In-Law:
†Ana Ramona Pangelinan Tainatongo; †Leo S. & †Susana Rose C. Pangelinan; †Paul Sonis Pangelinan

Your life was a blessing, your memory a treasure, you are loved beyond words, missed beyond measure.

Nightly mass of intention is offered at Nuestra Senora Bithen delos Santa Remedios at 6:00 pm Monday through Saturday and 7:00 am on Sunday.
Our Beloved Rose Marie will be with us on Wednesday, October 21, 2020 beginning 9:00 am at Our Lady of Mount Carmel Cathedral Church for responso service followed by public visitation. Mass of Christian Burial will be celebrated at 11:00 am followed by the Rite of Committal at Mount Carmel Cemetery where she will be laid peacefully with her father.

Your words of comfort, love and prayers during this difficult time are greatly appreciated.

Anthony Atalig Camacho, Children and Family

The Sonis Pangelinan Family

Asia

AS VIRUS RECOVERY GAINS STRENGTH

China's economy accelerates

BEIJING (AP)—China's shaky economic recovery from the coronavirus pandemic is gaining strength as consumers return to shopping malls and auto dealerships while the United States and Europe endure painful contractions.

The world's second-largest economy expanded by 4.9% over a year ago in the three months ending in September, official data showed Monday. Retail spending rebounded to above pre-virus levels for the first time and factory output rose, boosted by demand for exports of masks and other medical supplies.

The recovery is broadening out and becoming less reliant on government stimulus, Julian Evans-Pritchard of Capital Economics said in a report. He said growth is "still accelerating" heading into the present quarter.

China, where the pandemic began in December, became the first major economy to return to growth after the ruling Communist Party declared the disease under control in March and began reopening factories, shops and offices.

It is the only major economy that is expected to grow this year while activity in the United States, Europe and Japan shrinks.

The Chinese economy expanded by 3.2% over a year earlier in the three months ending in June, rebounding from the previous quarter's 6.8% contraction, its worst performance since at least the mid-1960s.

The economy "continued the steady recovery," the National Bureau of Statistics said in a report. However, it warned, "the international environment is still complicated and severe." It said China faces great pressure to prevent a resurgence of the virus.

IN CELEBRATION OF HIS NEW LIFE

†Jesus Mulemar Mettao

Born on January 30, 1945
Called to Eternal Life on October 13, 2020

He is survived by his:
Children and Grandchildren:

Sarah Elizabeth Naputi/ †Ricardo Borja
(Lory Lynn Borja, Colleen Borja, †Richard Jr. Borja, †Idalynn Naputi)
Henry/ Harriett Naputi (Darsky Naputi, Darr Naputi, Perissa Naputi, Darton Naputi, Irvin Okaruru)
George Naputi (Connie/John Techur), (Sean Naputi/Chelsea Sablan), (Jesse Ryan Naputi, Michael Flores)
Michael/ Eleonor Naputi (Mikilynna/ Aaron Taitano) (Miguel Naputi/ Toricah Santos) (Michael/Gerlita Sanchez)
Mary Evyonne/ Larry Surigao (Metgot Larry Surigao, Tonyrose Surigao, Jarren Surigao)
Vincent Mettao/ Dianne Villegas (Vianny Mettao, Jerome Mettao)

Great Grand Children:
Matias Jesus Borja - Darson, Lydia Lynn Borja - Kacia, Jonisha Borja - Darvon, Jomeka Borja - Skylar, Richard Borja - Jessiah, Jarika Borja - Jessey, Tasi Borja - Jordyn, Mekaio B. Sablan, Ricardo B. Ayuyu, Catalina B. Ayuyu

Brothers and Sisters:
†Carmen Saures and children/children in-law, †Nicanor Mettao and children/ children in-law, †Isidro Mettao and children/children in-law, †Esteban Mettao and children/children in-law

Brothers and Sisters In-Law:
†Jose/ Hinara Naputi and children/ children in-law, Maria Saralu/ Boy Maglaqui and children/ children in-law Antonio/ Maria Naputi and children/ children in-law, Elizabeth/ James Dudley and children/ children in-law, Rosa/ Ambro Ayuyu and children/ children in-law, Miguel Naputi/ †Barbara Ann Borja and children/ children in-law, Bernadita Naputi/ Angel Ayuyu and children/s, Lucia Ana H. Naputi and children/ children in-law

In his new life, he now joins his:

Parents:	†Jose P. Mettao & †Maria Mulemar
Parents In-Law:	†Enrique O. Naputi & †Sara H. Naputi
Brothers and Sister:	†Carmen M. Saures, †Nicanor M. Mettao, †Isidro M. Mettao, †Esteban M. Mettao
Grand Niece:	†Zelda N. Ayuyu
Grandson & Granddaughter:	†Jesse Ryan M. Naputi, †Richard N. Borja, †Idalynn N. Borja
Nieces:	†Reina S. Nedlie, †Maria N. Mettao
Nephews:	†Raphael S. Mettao, †Enrique B. Naputi
Son In-Law:	†Ricardo M. Borja
Sister In-Law:	†Rita S. Mettao
Brother and Sister In-Law:	†Francisco H. Naputi, +Vicente H. Naputi, †Juanita H. Naputi , †James F. Dudley, †Larry I. Saralu, †Matilde S. Naputi, †Barbara Ann Borja

Daily Mass is being offered at San Antonio Parish, St. Jude Parish. Holy Rosary is being offered after nightly Mass at the Residence of Lucia Ana H. Naputi, located in Chalan Kanoa district #3.

October 14, 2020 6:00 p.m. (San Antonio Parish)
October 15-20, 2020 6:00 p.m. (St. Jude Parish)

On Wednesday, October 21, 2020 at 7:45 a.m., his remains will be escorted from Borja Funeral Home to St. Jude Parish. Responsorial at 8:00 a.m., followed by the Holy Rosary at 8:30 a.m. Mass of Christian Burial will be celebrated at 10:00 a.m. Interment will follow at Chalan Kanoa Cemetery.

Thank you, Si Yu'us Ma'ase, Ghilisow
Ginen I Familia

World

Pedestrians in protective masks pass a storefront on Thursday, Oct. 15, 2020, as restrictions on operations are imposed due to an increase in COVID-19 infections in the Far Rockaway neighborhood of the borough of Queens in New York. AP

AS VIRUS FLARES GLOBALLY

New strategies target hot spots

NEW YORK (AP)—After entire nations were shut down during the first surge of the coronavirus earlier this year, some countries and U.S. states are trying more targeted measures as cases rise again around the world, especially in Europe and the Americas.

New York's new round of virus shutdowns zeroes in on individual neighborhoods, closing schools and businesses in hot spots measuring just a couple of square miles.

Spanish officials limited travel to and from some parts of Madrid before restrictions were widened throughout the capital and some suburbs.

Italian authorities have sometimes quarantined spots as small as a single building.

While countries including Israel and the Czech Republic have reinstated nationwide closures, other governments hope smaller-scale shutdowns can work this time, in conjunction with testing, contact tracing and other initiatives they've now built up.

The concept of containing hot spots isn't new, but it's being tested under new pressures as authorities try to avoid a dreaded resurgence of illness and deaths, this time with economies weakened from earlier lockdowns, populations chafing at the idea of renewed restrictions and some communities complaining of unequal treatment.

Some scientists say a localized approach, if well-tailored and explained to the public, can be a nimble response at a complex point in the pandemic.

"It is pragmatic in appreciation of 'restriction fatigue' ... but it is strategic, allowing for mobilization of substantial resources to where they are needed most," says Dr. Wafaa El-Sadr, who is following New York City's efforts closely and is on some city advisory boards.

Other scientists are warier.

"If we're serious about wiping out COVID in an area, we need coordinated responses across" as wide a swath as possible, says Benjamin Althouse, a research scientist with the Institute for Disease Modeling in Washington state.

In a study that has been posted online but not published in a journal or reviewed by independent experts, Althouse and other scientists found that amid patchwork coronavirus-control measures in the U.S. this spring, some people traveled farther than usual for such activities as worship, suggesting they might have responded to closures by hopscotching to less-restricted areas.

Still, choosing between limited closures and widespread restrictions is "a very, very difficult decision," Althouse notes. "I'm glad I'm not the one making it."

Early in the outbreak, countries tried to quell hot spots from Wuhan, China—where a stringent lockdown was seen as key in squelching transmission in the world's most populous nation—to Italy, where a decision to seal off 10 towns in the northern region of Lombardy evolved within weeks into a nationwide lockdown.

After the virus's first surge, officials fought flare-ups with city-sized closures this summer in places from Barcelona, Spain, to Seoul to Melbourne, Australia.

In the English city of Leicester, nonessential shops were shut down and households banned from mixing in late June.

Israel, Bahrain sign deal establishing formal ties

JERUSALEM (AP)—Israel and Bahrain on Sunday agreed to establish formal diplomatic relations, making the small Gulf country the fourth Arab state to normalize ties with Israel.

The U.S.-brokered agreement capped a one-day visit by a high-level delegation of American and Israeli officials to Bahrain.

Bahrain joined the United Arab Emirates at a festive White House ceremony last month marking the "Abraham Accords," a pair of U.S.-brokered diplomatic pacts with Israel. While the UAE's deal with Israel formally established ties, the agreement with Bahrain was less detailed and included a mutual pledge to follow suit.

Sunday's visit appeared to complete that task, clearing the way for the countries to open embassies and exchange ambassadors in the coming months.

"It was indeed an historic visit, to start opening relations between both countries, to have fruitful bilateral relations in both fields," said Bahrain's foreign minister, Abdullatif al-Zayani, at the signing ceremony.

U.S. Treasury Secretary Steven Mnuchin and Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu's national security adviser, Meir Ben-Shabbat, led the delegations.

"Today we made the first formal step in bringing closer ties between the countries," Ben-Shabbat said. "We were accepted with open arms, with warmth and cordiality."

"This is an important step in stability in the region, in bring prosperity to all the people in the region and in the countries," added Mnuchin.

Israel's agreements with the UAE and Bahrain have marked diplomatic victories for the Trump administration and for Netanyahu.

Life & Style

Liam Neeson's 'Honest Thief' notches No. 1 at box office

LOS ANGELES (AP)—Liam Neeson's thriller "Honest Thief" stole the top spot at the box office in yet another quiet weekend of moviegoing.

The Open Roads Films movie brought in $3.7 million in North America the weekend of its U.S. debut. The film, starring Neeson as a notorious bank robber who turns himself in but was double crossed by two FBI agents, opened in Canada last week.

The film also played well in markets including Miami, Chicago, San Diego and Atlanta, according to the studio.

"Honest Thief" overtook "The War with Grandpa," which claimed No. 1 last week. Despite coming in second, the comedy starring Robert De Niro earned $2.5 million. It has garnered $7.3 million domestically within a 10-day timespan.

Christopher Nolan's "Tenet" came in third with $1.6 million. The action-thriller starring John David Washington and Robert Pattinson has totaled $50.6 million in the U.S.

This image released by Open Road Films shows Kate Walsh, left, and Liam Neeson in a scene from "Honest Thief." AP

Ethan Hawke tapes audio edition of acclaimed novel 'Gilead'

NEW YORK (AP)—When she learned that Ethan Hawke was working on a special audio edition of her acclaimed novel "Gilead," Marilynne Robinson's response was to get a better idea of who he was.

"I can't say I was familiar with his voice," Robinson said of the four-time Oscar nominee whose films include "Before Sunrise," "Reality Bites" and "Boyhood." But when Robinson watched Hawke star as a troubled priest in Paul Schrader's "First Reformed" she felt confident he could inhabit the life of an aging Iowa minister in the 1950s, one whom Robinson describes as "a man deep in conversation with himself."

Hawke

"He (Hawke) speaks in a sort of American way that is well within the range of what I understand my character to be speaking," she said.

Winner of the Pulitzer Prize in 2005, "Gilead" is the first of four Robinson novels set in a rural Iowa community in the 1950s. It's narrated by the dying Rev. John Ames, a Congregationalist pastor who reflects on his family history and the suffering and transcendence he has known in this "poor perishable world." The book's many admirers include former President Barack Obama, who has spoken of reading "Gilead" while campaigning in Iowa.

Hawke has recorded an abridged narrative of "Gilead" that was commissioned by Manhattan's 92nd Street Y and can he heard Oct. 19-29 via www.92y.org/gilead. Bernard Schwartz, who directs the Y's Unterberg Poetry Center, said in a statement that he thought Hawke was an ideal narrator.

"In 'Gilead,' the Reverend John Ames contemplates 'grace as a sort of ecstatic fire that takes things down to essentials,'" he said. "I read that and think of Ethan Hawke's voice. 'Gilead' is a great American novel, and Ethan Hawke is a great American actor."

For grateful NBC, Savannah Guthrie changes the subject

NEW YORK (AP)—Savannah Guthrie did more than just display her journalistic chops at NBC News' town hall with President Donald Trump. She changed the subject for her bosses.

NBC was reeling heading into Thursday's event, under widespread criticism for scheduling it at the same time as ABC's town hall with Democratic opponent Joe Biden. NBC was accused of rewarding Trump for rejecting the debate commission's plan to do the second debate virtually.

That was quickly forgotten when the president sat opposite Guthrie, who questioned him specifically on when he last tested positive for COVID-19 (he said he didn't remember), whether he had pneumonia (didn't say) and his personal finances.

The Georgetown Law School graduate had clearly done her homework, seemingly prepared for each response. When the president recited a statistic from a study on the effectiveness of masks in spreading COVID-19, Guthrie had read it, too, and countered him.

As host of the "Today" show, Guthrie knows the importance of time and how to stop an interview subject from filibustering. That background also teaches how to crystallize what an audience is thinking in a plain-spoken way, as evidenced in her most-quoted moment.

She was incredulous when, after asking why Trump had retweeted a false conspiracy theory that American special forces didn't really kill Osama bin Laden, he said that he "just put it out there" to let people decide for themselves.

"I don't get that," Guthrie said. "You're the president. You're not like you're somebody's crazy uncle who can just retweet anything."

Similarly, Guthrie described the theory promoted online by QAnon that Democrats are running a satanic pedophile ring and that Trump was the savior meant to stop them, and asked why he didn't denounce it. Trump said he knew nothing about it.

"I just told you," she said.

Just because she says something doesn't mean it's true, the president retorted.

"There's not a satanic pedophile cult," she said. "You don't know that?"

Trump is "hands down" the most difficult public figure to interview, said Axios reporter Jonathan Swan, who with Fox News' Chris Wallace and now Guthrie have received the most praise of any TV journalists to take him on this election cycle.

Careless son-in-law leaves trail of chaos in his wake

DEAR ABBY: My son-in-law "Kirk" has issues with closing doors, kitchen cabinets and refrigerator doors. Three times my daughter has had to throw out food because it spoiled. He doesn't close cereal boxes, bags of candy or chips, either.

My husband and I tolerated Kirk's behavior until a recent visit to our home. He again left the door to our garage open, where our inside cat could have escaped. He was rough when opening our recliner, and he also didn't turn the cap all the way down on the seltzer bottle, but I know better than to shake the bottle before checking the cap because I once spilled orange juice everywhere after he failed to tighten the cap.

My daughter says she has known Kirk for 15 years, and he isn't going to change. She says he doesn't focus on the task at hand but is thinking about something else. I suppose she has given up and continually goes behind him to fasten things.

My husband and I feel he doesn't respect our home when he behaves this way. After my daughter spoke to Kirk after his last visit, she has brought our granddaughter over twice, but he stayed home. I feel like both of them think we are making much ado about nothing.

OPEN-AND-SHUT CASE IN VIRGINIA

DEAR OPEN-AND-SHUT: Has your daughter or son-in-law actually said that to you? You were not wrong to speak up, and it's not much ado about nothing. It is consideration for the property of others. You should have drawn the line after the first time your immature and inconsiderate son-in-law left the garage door open. (Was he stoned during those visits? Distracted by his cellphone?) Address the matter directly with your son-in-law, and consider seeing them at their house instead of yours.

■■■

DEAR ABBY: My mom insists on giving my oldest child, "Jim," less money than the other grandchildren because he's my stepson. Jim is 19, and I am the only mother he has ever known since he was 2 1/2. I'm still married to his father, and Jim is part of the family.

I realized what she was doing only last Christmas, when she gave Jimmy $100 and the other 12 grandkids $500 each. (This included my two younger children.) When I asked her why, she couldn't give me a straight answer. I have always regarded Jim as my own and thought she felt the same way. Now I'm no longer sure she's going to leave him an inheritance when she's gone, and I feel crummy about the entire situation.

LOST IN THE SOUTH

DEAR LOST: I don't blame you for feeling crummy because this is a sad situation. Unfortunately, in some -- not all -- families this happens. Bear in mind the money your mother is gifting is hers to do with as she wishes, and there is nothing you can do to force her to behave more charitably toward Jim. However, you and your husband might consider equalizing it in your own estate plans when the time comes. Have the two of you already talked with an attorney about wills, advance directives, etc.? If you haven't, now may be the time to discuss the subject.

■■■

Abby shares more than 100 of her favorite recipes in two booklets: "Abby's Favorite Recipes" and "More Favorite Recipes by Dear Abby." Send your name and mailing address, plus check or money order for $16 (U.S. funds) to: Dear Abby, Cookbooklet Set, P.O. Box 447, Mount Morris, IL 61054-0447. (Shipping and handling are included in the price.)

DEAR ABBY

By Abigail Van Buren
UNIVERSAL PRESS SYNDICATE

Dear Abby is written by Abigail Van Buren, also known as Jeanne Phillips, and was founded by her mother, Pauline Phillips. Contact Dear Abby at www.DearAbby.com or P.O. Box 69440, Los Angeles, CA 90069.

Pastimes

Calvin and Hobbes

By Bill Waterson

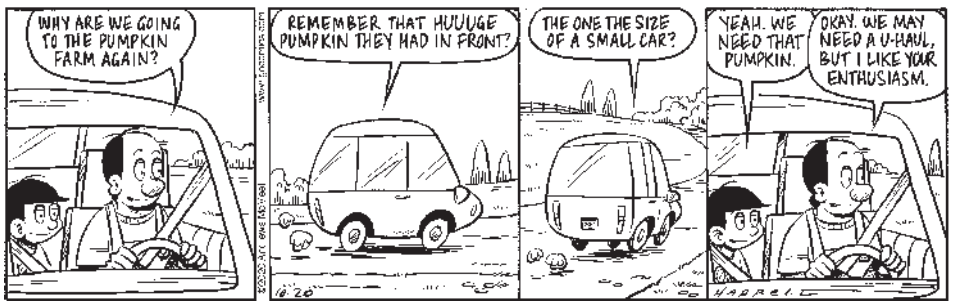
LOOK MOM, I MADE A MASK.
ARE YOU GETTING READY FOR HALLOWEEN?
HUH? NO, THIS IS FOR EVERY DAY. YOU KNOW HOW HOBBES ALWAYS SNEAKS UP FROM BEHIND AND POUNCES ON ME?
NO...
WELL, HE DOES. BUT IF YOU WEAR A MASK LIKE THIS ON THE BACK OF YOUR HEAD, TIGERS CAN'T TELL WHICH WAY YOU'RE FACING, AND THEY CAN'T SNEAK UP.
I THINK YOUR TRAIN OF THOUGHT IS A RUNAWAY.
I READ THEY WEAR THESE IN INDIA. HERE, I MADE A MASK FOR YOU TOO.

Garfield®

By Jim Davis

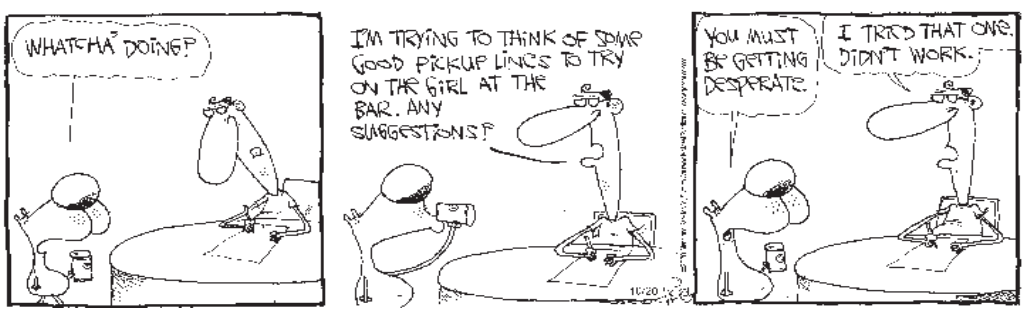
Adam@home

By Bryan Basset


WHY ARE WE GOING TO THE PUMPKIN FARM AGAIN?
REMEMBER THAT HUUUGE PUMPKIN THEY HAD IN FRONT?
THE ONE THE SIZE OF A SMALL CAR?
YEAH. WE NEED THAT PUMPKIN.
OKAY. WE MAY NEED A U-HAUL, BUT I LIKE YOUR ENTHUSIASM.

The Duplex

By Glenn McCoy


WHATCHA' DOING?
I'M TRYING TO THINK OF SOME GOOD PICKUP LINES TO TRY ON THE GIRL AT THE BAR. ANY SUGGESTIONS?
YOU MUST BE GETTING DESPERATE.
I TRIED THAT ONE. DIDN'T WORK.

CROSSWORD

By Eugene Sheffer

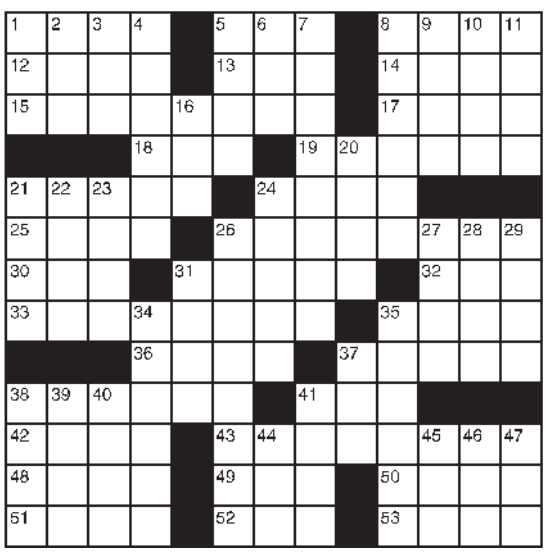
ACROSS
1 Ski lift type
5 Avril follower
8 Contain
12 Actor Alan
13 Coffee vessel
14 Vicinity
15 "A pity ..."
17 "Shoo!"
18 Mouse chaser
19 University of Illinois city
21 Porterhouse, e.g.
24 Russian ruler
25 Throw hard
26 Mediocre
30 Lawyers' org.
31 — Dame
32 "— you kidding?"
33 Pointer Sisters hit song of 1980
35 Coffin support
36 Duel tool
37 "Hammerin' Hank"
38 Wheedled
41 Director Lee
42 Slightly
43 "What great news!"
48 Anger
49 Cistern
50 Billions of years
51 Optimum
52 Actress Longoria
53 Word of warning

DOWN
1 — chi
2 Crunchy sandwich
3 Billboards
4 Scamp
5 Has to
6 Coach Parseghian
7 Big business
8 G.I. Joe producer
9 Killer whale
10 Low-fat
11 Facts and figures
16 Sturdy tree
20 Demolish, in Dover
21 Persian leader
22 Toothpaste holder
23 Historic periods
24 Lennon/Ono's "Power — People"
26 Sudden plunge
27 "Aquarius" musical
28 Sandwich cookie
29 Shore bird
31 "Unh-unh"
34 Two trios
35 Packed, as groceries
37 Yucatan year
38 Atkins diet no-no
39 Theater award
40 Feels unwell
41 Nick and Nora's pet
44 Dallas hoopster, briefly
45 Bathroom, to a Londoner
46 Raggedy doll
47 "Spring ahead" hrs.

Solution time: 22 mins.

H	A	W		C	S	C	A	H		H	B	
E	L	I		R	I	F	L	E		R	A	N
F	I	E	L	D	G	O	A	L		E	L	K
			E	E	N		N	A	V	E	L	S
S	A	F	A	R	I		S	T	A	G		
C	U	E		S	N	L		E	_	I	S	A
A	R	E	S		G	E	M		E	F	T	S
M	A	I	T	A		N	A	P		T	C	P
		S	F	R	A		G	R	A	S	P	S
B	I	G	M	A	C		E	A	U			
E	M	O		F	U	N	N	Y	G	I	R	L
S	H	O		A	R	C	T	C		R	C	O
S	O	D		T	A	T	A	R		A	X	L

Yesterday's answer 10-20



STUMPED? For answers to today's crossword, call **1-900-226-5955**! 99¢ per minute, touch-tone/rotary phones. (18+ only.) A King Features service, NYC.

CELEBRITIES BORN ON THIS DAY: Alona Tal, 37; John Krasinski, 41; Snoop Dogg, 49; Viggo Mortensen, 62.

Happy Birthday: Keep an open mind, look at every angle, question what you don't understand and make decisions that will position you for a better future. Change takes courage, time and effort, and being responsible for your actions will make a difference. Be the master of your destiny instead of procrastinating or letting someone else take over. Keep life simple, moderate and manageable. Your numbers are 8, 12, 21, 27, 33, 35, 42.

ARIES *(March 21-April 19):* You'll face opposition if you question what someone is doing. Concentrate on how to you get ahead. Discuss what you want to happen with someone who can help you reach your objective. Don't let a sensitive issue hold you back. ✪✪✪✪✪

TAURUS *(April 20-May 20):* Don't be fooled by hidden costs. Map out your plans, and address issues that are questionable. With opportunity comes responsibility. Make sure you are up to taking on a new or unexpected challenge. Do thorough research before you begin, and proceed with intelligence. ✪✪✪

GEMINI *(May 21-June 20):* Proceed with caution. If you want to avoid an emotional roller coaster, listen carefully, verify the information before passing it along and don't make a move based on innuendoes. Avoid conflict, lies and joint ventures. ✪✪✪

CANCER *(June 21-July 22):* Take the road less traveled. It's OK to be different; in fact, it will help you avoid getting into a dispute with someone focused on something that doesn't interest you. Agree to let everyone do their own things. ✪✪✪

LEO *(July 23-Aug. 22):* Put some muscle behind whatever you decide to pursue. The less interaction you have with others, the easier it will be to follow through with your plans. Don't present what you are working toward until you are satisfied with the results. ✪✪✪✪

VIRGO *(Aug. 23-Sept. 22):* Keep your emotions hidden. The less others know about you or what you are doing, the better. Bring about the changes you want to make, and stop worrying about what others think or do. Be your own master. ✪✪

LIBRA *(Sept. 23-Oct. 22):* Problems at home will mount if you don't take care of your responsibilities or are too lax with your spending or behavior. Make a point to concentrate on getting things done on time. Keep the peace, and defuse discord. ✪✪✪✪

SCORPIO *(Oct. 23-Nov. 21):* A change someone makes will play into your plans. Look for a diverse way to use your skills, and find out what those around you have to offer to be most productive. Learn as you go, and opportunity will follow. ✪✪✪

SAGITTARIUS *(Nov. 22-Dec. 21):* Confusion will set in if you are gullible or let your heart rule your head. Protect your health and physical well-being. Abide by rules and regulations when in public. A thrilling experience may entice you, but consider the consequences. ✪✪✪

EUGENIA LAST

THE LAST WORD IN ASTROLOGY

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CAPRICORN *(Dec. 22-Jan. 19):* An unusual opportunity will lead to changes regarding how you work and live. Look at the pros and cons before you decide to change your lifestyle. A relationship will influence the decisions you make. Romance is on the rise. ✪✪✪

AQUARIUS *(Jan. 20-Feb. 18):* Be a leader, not a follower. Tend to responsibilities, and avoid outside interference. If you appear to be uncertain about what you want to do, someone will step in and take over. Go about your business, and finish what you start. ✪✪✪✪

PISCES *(Feb. 19-March 20):* Refuse to let your emotions take over. It's essential to be realistic, especially if you are helping others. Offering empty promises will not go over well when you cannot deliver. Being a good listener will be more helpful than misleading someone. ✪✪

Birthday Baby: You are well-liked, smart and innovative. You are mysterious and unpredictable.

Visit Eugenialast.com, or join Eugenia on Twitter/Facebook/LinkedIn.

SUDOKU

Conceptis Sudoku *By Dave Green*

		1	8		3	6		
	4						5	
5		7				1		2
3			7	1	2			4
6			3	8	4			1
2		8				9		3
	6						1	
		4	5		7	8		

Difficulty Level ★★ 10/20

Sudoku is a number-placing puzzle based on a 9x9 grid with several given numbers. The object is to place the numbers 1 to 9 in the empty squares so that each row, each column and each 3x3 box contains the same number only once. The difficulty level of the Conceptis Sudoku increases from Monday to Saturday.

Yesterday's Answer

5	2	8	9	3	4	6	7	1
1	7	3	6	8	2	5	4	9
6	4	9	5	7	1	8	2	3
9	6	1	8	5	7	2	3	4
3	5	4	2	9	6	1	8	7
7	8	2	4	1	3	9	5	6
4	9	5	7	6	8	3	1	2
8	1	7	3	2	9	4	6	5
2	3	6	1	4	5	7	9	8

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WONDERWORD

By DAVID OUELLET

HOW TO PLAY: All the words listed below appear in the puzzle — horizontally, vertically, diagonally and even backward. Find them, circle each letter of the word and strike it off the list. The leftover letters spell the WONDERWORD.

LOVING BABIES — Solution: 4 letters

N	R	A	E	L	I	M	S	E	L	D	A	R	C	L
O	O	Y	A	L	P	E	S	L	E	E	P	S	U	W
I	C	P	P	D	B	T	H	L	H	E	K	L	D	A
S	K	P	B	E	N	B	K	T	M	O	L	S	D	R
S	X	A	L	E	R	C	A	O	O	A	M	T	L	C
E	R	H	R	F	I	S	T	B	B	O	S	E	E	O
R	E	A	T	T	A	I	O	Y	M	U	S	(B)	L	N
P	P	C	G	M	O	M	N	N	R	L	D	(I)	G	N
X	A	R	N	N	R	N	I	T	A	E	A	(R)	G	E
E	I	P	U	A	I	A	E	L	E	L	D	(C)	I	C
R	D	O	H	B	D	W	W	S	Y	R	I	I	G	T
U	K	I	T	H	H	O	S	N	I	S	A	T	R	I
C	L	N	U	R	T	U	R	E	U	E	A	C	Y	O
E	I	T	O	Y	S	A	G	M	D	L	O	H	T	N
S	M	E	M	O	R	Y	B	S	K	K	L	A	W	D

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Babble, Bath, Books, Burp, Calm, Connection, Cradle, Crawl, Crib, Cuddle, Dads, Dance, Diaper, Emotion, Expression, Family, Feed, Giggle, Happy, Hold, Home, Hugs, Interact, Learn, Lullaby, Memory, Milk, Moms, Mouth, Music, Nurture, Onesie, Parents, Personality, Play, Point, Relax, Ride, Rock, Secure, Sleep, Smile, Soothe, Swing, Talk, Tickle, Toys, Trust, Walk, Warmth

Yesterday's Answer: Acoustic

To purchase THE COLLECTED WONDERWORD, Volumes 47 through 60 order online at: www.WonderWordBooks.com.

Bellinger HR sends Dodgers to World Series

ARLINGTON, Texas (AP)—The Los Angeles Dodgers celebrated as Cody Bellinger's drive soared deep into the Texas night. Bellinger flung his bat off to the side and strutted up the first-base line.

All the way to the World Series.

Bellinger hit a tiebreaking solo homer in the seventh inning, and the Dodgers advanced to the Fall Classic for the third time in four years by topping the Atlanta Braves 4-3 in Game 7 of the NL Championship Series on Sunday.

"This year is our year," manager Dave Roberts said.

Bellinger connected an inning after Kiké Hernández became the first pinch hitter with a game-tying or go-ahead homer in a winner-take-all-game. His homer tied it at 3 and, like Bellinger's, came on the eighth pitch of the at-bat.

The Dodgers, who matched an LCS record with 16 homers, overcame a 3-1 series deficit by winning three consecutive games when facing elimination for only the second time in their storied history.

"Defensively, pitching, game-calling, planning, everything. we grinded all the way through this series," said shortstop Corey Seager, who was named NLCS MVP after bashing a record five homers in the series. "We're glad to be on top."

After winning both their NL Division Series and the NLCS in the new $1.2 billion Globe Life Field, the Dodgers get to stay in place for the World Series. Game 1 against the American League champion Tampa Bay Rays is Tuesday night.

Julio Urias closed with three perfect innings as the Dodgers won their 24th NL pennant, their 12th since moving to Los Angeles. They are coming off their eighth consecutive NL West title.

It was the 16th consecutive playoff appearance in which Atlanta did not win a World Series, the most for any team.

But these Braves have won three consecutive NL East titles and have a bunch of young players surrounding NL MVP candidate Freddie Freeman, who had never been to the NLCS in his previous 10 seasons in Atlanta.

"We're taking strides in the right direction. And we did it with our young players and the experience they got," manager Brian Snitker said. "A lot of our young players grew up a lot in these last three months."

The Dodgers are once again going for their first World Series title since 1988. They lost Game 7 at home three years ago to to the Houston Astros, and then lost in five games to the Boston Red Sox in 2018 when Mookie Betts was the AL MVP and playing against Los Angeles.

Tampa Bay's win in Game 7 of the ALCS late Saturday night wiped out the chance for an October rematch with the Astros, whose 2017 World Series victory over the Dodgers has been heavily tarnished by the revelations of Houston's sign-stealing tactics that season.

Betts, the first-year Dodger signed for 12 more years, made another incredible defensive play, robbing Freeman of a solo homer in the fifth. He had run-saving plays in all three of their potential elimination games.

"This is really the first time we've had our backs against the wall," Betts said. "It seemed like we were getting handled a little bit early on. We were able to get a hold of ourselves and fight back. We're never going to give up."

Urias, the fifth Dodgers pitcher, got his fourth win in four appearances this postseason. The 24-year-old right-hander, already in his fourth postseason, has a 0.57 ERA in these playoffs.

"That's his moment right there. That was his game to win and he went out there and did it," Seager said.

The massive shot to right by reigning NL MVP and 2018 NLCS MVP Bellinger came on a 94-mph sinker after fouling off three pitches in a row by Chris Martin, the fifth Braves pitcher who started the seventh with strikeouts of Max Muncy and Will Smith.

Hernández led off the sixth with a 424-foot drive to left-center off A.J. Minter.

"Game 7 of the NLCS, win or go home, I was ready from first pitch of the game on. Mentally prepared, physically ready, envisioning AB situations," Hernández said.

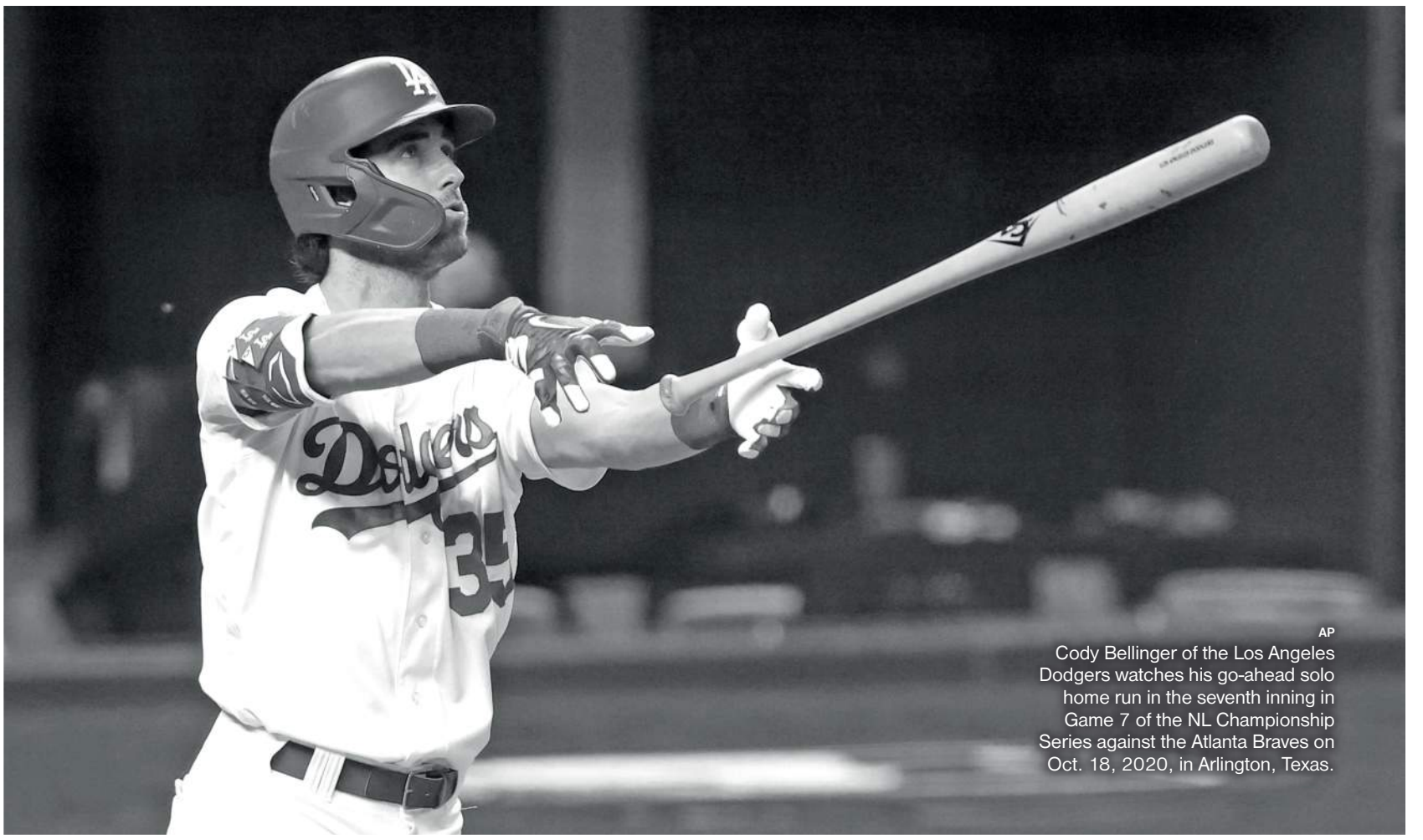
Dansby Swanson homered for Atlanta, which hasn't been to the World Series since 1999.

Before the late drama, it was the first winner-take-all game in postseason history matching rookie starters.

The Dodgers scored twice in the third to tie it at 2, the first runs allowed by Ian Anderson in his four postseason starts—the 22-year-old right-hander started only six games for Atlanta in the regular season. His scoreless streak of 17 2/3 innings was the third-longest to start a postseason career.

Justin Turner drew a two-out walk, Muncy doubled and Will Smith bounced a two-run single through the open gap near second created by the defensive shift.

The Dodgers' Dustin May became the first pitcher to walk the first two batters in a winner-take-all-game—and the 23-year-old from nearby Justin, Texas, did so without throwing a strike to Ronald Acuna Jr. or Freeman.



AP

Cody Bellinger of the Los Angeles Dodgers watches his go-ahead solo home run in the seventh inning in Game 7 of the NL Championship Series against the Atlanta Braves on Oct. 18, 2020, in Arlington, Texas.

Rays to lean on fearsome bullpen

SAN DIEGO (AP)—The Tampa Bay Rays have crossed the desert on some no-name horses.

Advancing from the AL playoffs in San Diego to the World Series in Arlington, Texas, manager Kevin Cash leaned hard on his bullpen—a group he described as "a whole damn stable of guys who throw 98 miles per hour" during a memorable spat with the Yankees in September.

The tagline has come to define the small-market Rays. The relief corps has no thoroughbreds, no All-Stars, no big-money headliners—Aaron Loup is the highest-paid reliever on the roster after signing a $1.65 million, one-year deal.

Yet the bullpen has dominated all year. Twelve different pitchers converted at least one save during the regular season, matching the major league record despite the compressed schedule, and the group had a 3.37 ERA, third in the majors. They've been just as overpowering in October.

Cash has the utmost confidence in the crew, a fact that showed when he gave notably early hooks to starters Blake Snell and Charlie Morton in Games 6 and 7 of the AL Championship Series to hold off the Houston Astros.

"I wouldn't want to hit our group right now," Rays general manager Erik Neander said.

The bullpen is versatile and deep, shoving high heat at hitters from all angles. Yet for most baseball fans, the individuals remain largely anonymous.

For viewers curious who's waiting behind those stable doors, here's a compendium on Cash's

The Rays' best reliever—Nick Anderson also may be its most unlikely. Anderson finished his college career at NAIA Mayville State in 2012, then was a 32nd-round pick by the Brewers but didn't sign. Standing 6-foot-6, he's unhittable for righties, plenty tough versus lefties and stretched out for multiple innings if needed. Cash will use him at any point in the game, likely against the top of the Dodgers' lineup.

Pete Fairbaks, a University of Missouri alum had Tommy John surgery twice before debuting in the majors with Texas in 2019. With lefties Corey Seager, Max Muncy and Cody Bellinger spread throughout LA's lineup, Fairbanks' versatility should be tested.

Among the club's few homegrown bullpen pieces, Diego Castillo went viral last year for his physics-defying two-seam fastball, a frisbee pitch that runs in toward right-handed hitters as hot as 99 mph.

Another success from the Rays' farm system, Jose Alvarado was among baseball's best relievers in 2018, but injuries have slowed him since. Wild at times, Alvarado still dominates because his sinker can reach 101 mph and is effective against righties and lefties.

The side-arming Ryan Thompson releases the ball about 3 ½ feet off the ground, nearly half as low as Tampa Bay's other righty relievers. That low angle helps Thompson generate impressive sink on his fastball. Cash has used him aggressively with runners on base, hoping for a double play ball. Thompson also has a swing-and-miss breaking ball and steady command of both pitches.

A journeyman recently with the Twins, Phillies and Angels, John Curtiss has found a home as a reliable strike thrower with the Rays. He walked just three in 25 innings during the regular season, and Cash has used him as a relief opener a few times, including in ALCS Game 5.

Aaron Loup has thrived in his first season with the Rays, using a fairly new cut fastball to hold righty hitters to a .192 average in the regular season while continuing to dominate lefties. Cash would love to match Loup up against NLCS stars Seager or Bellinger with two outs, but it's no disaster if Loup does have to face some righty hitters, too.

Aaron Slegers is among the tallest pitchers ever at 6-foot-10 and has exceptional control, while Josh Fleming was the Rays' fifth starter in September but has only pitched once this postseason. Shane McLanahan, Tampa Bay's 2018 first-round draft pick, made his big league debut during the AL Division Series. The 23-year-old could crack the 2021 starting rotation.

Lakers 'much more likely now' to target Rose

AP
In this Jan. 5, 2020 file photo, Detroit Pistons guard Derrick Rose (25) shoots against the Los Angeles Lakers' Anthony Davis during the second half of an NBA game in Los Angeles.

LOS ANGELES (AP)—While the Lakers should be dealing with parade logistics and texting each other hangover cures as they celebrate title No. 17, the reality of the NBA offseason comes fast.

With Rajon Rondo and Kentavious Caldwell-Pope expected to exercise their player options and become free-agents this summer (Avery Bradley and JaVale McGee can join them), the Lakers need to look at their roster around LeBron James and Anthony Davis (AD will opt out but he's not going anywhere). Los Angeles has just two rotation players under age 26 (Kyle Kuzma and Alex Caruso), and it needs more shooting and playmaking.

Does Derrick Rose fit into that Lakers plan? The Lakers had interest in him at the trade deadline, but a deal is more likely now that the season is over, one general manaher told Sean Deveney at Heavy.com.

"I think both sides were reluctant when they went into in January, February," one general manager told Heavy.com. "I don't think the Lakers wanted to make a major move because they thought they could do something on the buyout market. And I don't think the Pistons wanted to make a major move because Derrick was happy there. You know, the Lakers wanted to be involved in case the Clippers got involved or someone else, the Bucks or the Nuggets, whoever. So there was interest but not too serious. Now, everything has shifted a little. Now, they're both in a position to where a deal is much more likely now."

The Pistons are rebuilding and will want young players and picks in a trade; the Lakers have limited assets in that mold right now after everything they gave up to land Davis. The Lakers would not throw Kyle Kuzma in a deal at the deadline, but the Lakers need to ask how much they want to keep Kuzma long-term and at what price—he is up for a new contract in the 2021 offseason. That's an offseason when the Lakers are trying to keep cap space open for a deep free-agent class. If the Lakers are not in the Kuzma business long-term, they should explore what they can get for him in a trade.

The Lakers' offense dropped 6.9 points per 100 possessions when LeBron went to the bench and took his playmaking skills with him last regular season. That number was 6.1 in the playoffs. Rondo did a solid job running the offense when LeBron sat, but the Lakers need more playmaking and Derrick Rose would fill that role. He averaged 18.1 points and 5.6 assists in a sixth-man role for Detroit last season, playing 26 minutes a game. He's also older and has an injury history, and while he seemed to have moved past it, this move does not make the Lakers younger.

Just another Lakers rumor to watch as they head into an interesting offseason as champs.

Draft: Teams skip live player workouts

Nothing is like it used to be in 2020, and that includes the NBA draft—it will be virtual and take place Nov. 18.

The in-person workouts for the draft are different as well: Players will pick a city and do an individual workout there, and teams can send a scout/GM to that city to watch the workout and do a 1-on-1 interview (although the interview is not guaranteed). Teams don't get to see the player in an individual workout on their terms, it's more pro-day style. Not every team is down with this, according to Marc Berman of New York Post.

Some teams are deciding not to partake in the loosening up of draft-preparation guidelines that will allow scouts to fly to a designated city with other clubs and watch a Pro Day-like live workout. Usually those Pro Days feature meaningless 1-on-0 drills.

Some teams believe the COVID-19 risk outweighs the reward. New York has protocols that require two-week quarantines after returning from many states. One executive from a club that won't attend told The Post the best intel is watching a prospect at his college practice. "Doing your own homework and own background checks are more important," the executive said.

What teams want is less the workout and more the interview, the chance to get a sense of the player. That can be done via Zoom, but as we have all found out during the pandemic, those online interviews do not give you the same sense of a person you get in person.

Front offices around the league spent the pandemic doing a lot of NBA draft prep — watching videos from games and practices, calling coaches and associates, and doing their background research. That hasn't always helped in a draft with no clear No. 1 pick and wide-ranging opinions on other players, but teas have done the work.

Missing an in-person workout at this point is not that big a deal, but those workouts could add a piece of the puzzle for some players.

Mickelson tops Champions Tour ahead of Masters

RICHMOND, Va. (AP)—Phil Mickelson likes to play aggressively and found the PGA Tour Champions' stop at The Country Club of Virginia the perfect place to begin his preparations for the Masters.

Bombing drives like he will have to do against the younger set on the PGA Tour, Mickelson shot a 7-under 65 and became the third player—and second this year—to win his first two starts on the tour for players 50 and older. He slammed the door on Canada's Mike Weir with a back-nine surge Sunday in the Dominion Energy Charity Classic.

"It's fun for me to come out here and play well and this is a good start for me as I try to build a little bit of momentum heading to Augusta in about a month," Mickelson said.

He finished at 17-under 199, one off the event record set by Miguel Angel Jimenez last year.

"I put a new driver into play this week, trying to get a little more pop, a little more carry. It was a little wayward at times, but it was also effective in allowing me to play this course the way I wanted to, which was aggressively," Mickelson said.

Mickelson beat fellow lefthander and second-round leader Weir, from Brights Grove, Ont., by three strokes. The fellow rookie closed with a 71 and said he would have contended had he putted better.

"I haven't been in this position in a while, but I felt very confident," Weir said. "I hit one poor tee shot on No. 7. Outside of that, I played really well and just didn't get anything really out of it."

The winner in late August at Ozarks National in Missouri in his first start on the tour, Mickelson joined Bruce Fleischer and Jim Furyk as the only players to win in their first two senior events. Fleischer accomplished the feat in 1999 and Furyk did it this year with victories at The Ally Challenge and Pure Insurance Championship.

Mickelson said earlier in the week he came to Virginia to work on accurate driving and competitive fitness, and was hoping to still be in contention for the closing holes.

"I felt like the last six holes I had an opportunity with the two short par 4s and two par 5s to make something happen," he said, noting the advantage of his length. "... I was able to have two putt birdies on three of those holes and that was very helpful."

He got the lead when Weir three-putted the par-3 14th green, doubled his edge with a birdie on the next hole, then highlighted his distance advantage over the 2003 Masters champion by driving the green on the 274-yard, par-4 15th. He two-putted from 30 feet, then reached the par-5 16th in two and made birdie, cancelling out Weir's birdie.

Mickelson's chance to work on his competitive side came right away. He erased a three-shot deficit with birdies on three of the first six holes while Weir made a string of pars, but it was on the back nine that he was really tested, and delighted with his response.

After going a shot behind on the 12th hole, he pulled even at No. 13 and kept pushing.

Mickelson, who hasn't won on the PGA Tour since early 2019 at Pebble Beach, plans to return to the PGA Tour next week for the Zozo Championship in California. After a week off, he'll play in the Houston Open as his final preparation for the Masters on Nov. 12-15.

Weir three-putted the par-5 18th, but still hung on to beat Paul Goydos (65) by a shot. Bernhard Langer (67) and Brandt Jobe (68) shared fifth, five behind Mickelson.

It was Weir's third top-10 finish in eight starts on the tour.

Meanwhile, Jason Kokrak was playing for the 233rd time in his 10th season on the PGA Tour without ever having won, so he didn't need any reminders Sunday in the CJ Cup at Shadow Creek that anything would come easily.

He watched Xander Schauffele stuff a wedge to 5 feet for birdie and roll in a 45-foot birdie putt from the thick collar of the 13th green on the next hole to tie for the lead.

Kokrak never flinched.

Holding his nerve to the end and delivering all the key shots, Kokrak matched the low score of the week with an 8-under 64 to overcome a three-shot deficit at the start and win by two shots to finally be able to call himself a PGA Tour winner.

Bucs defense hands Packers first loss

TAMPA, Fla. (AP) — So much for Tom Brady vs. Aaron Rodgers.

A stingy Tampa Bay Buccaneers defense turned a rare meeting between the Super Bowl-winning quarterbacks into a mismatch on Sunday.

Brady outplayed Rodgers, however a young Bucs secondary was equally impressive in setting the tone for a 38-10 rout of the previously unbeaten Packers, who unraveled after taking a 10-0 lead and limiting Tampa Bay to just five offensive plays in the first quarter.

Rodgers threw two interceptions—Green Bay's first turnovers of the season—within a three-pass span of the second quarter to turn the 10-point lead into a 14-10 deficit.

Cornerback Jamel Dean returned the first pick 32 yards for a touchdown. Safety Mike Edwards ran the other back 38 yards to the Packers 2 to set up another TD.

"Jamel made a hell of a play. It was a huge play. It sparked us," Brady said.

"That pick-6 changed the entire ballgame," coach Bruce Arians said.

AP

Green Bay Packers quarterback Aaron Rodgers (12) gets sacked by Tampa Bay Buccaneers inside linebacker Lavonte David (54) during the first half of an NFL game Sunday, Oct. 18, 2020, in Tampa, Fla.

It was the 43-year-old Brady's first signature victory since signing with the Bucs (4-2) after a historic 20-year run with the New England Patriots, which included nine NFL title game appearances and six championships.

He got his favorite target from his days with the Patriots into the mix, throwing a 12-yard touchdown pass to Rob Gronkowski for a 28-10 halftime lead. It was Gronkowski's first TD since December 2018 and the 79th for the quarterback/tight end tandem—tied for fourth on the all-time list with Miami's Dan Marino and Mark Clayton.

Titans 42, Texans 36

The Titans (5-0) amassed 601 yards, with quarterback Ryan Tannehill passing for 364 yards and four touchdowns to complement Henry. Tannehill engineered a nine-play, 76-yard drive in the waning moments, and his 7-yard touchdown pass to A.J. Brown with four seconds left forced overtime.

In the extra period, Henry had a 53-yard reception before his 5-yard run ended it.

Giants 20, Washington 19

Linebacker Tae Crowder returned a fumble 43 yards for a go-ahead touchdown late in the fourth quarter, and New York (1-5) held on for a win over the Washington Football Team (1-5) in East Rutherford, N.J.

Cam Sims scored a touchdown with 36 seconds left to pull Washington within one point, and head coach Ron Rivera decided to go for a two-point conversion rather than settling for an extra point to even the score. The gamble failed as quarterback Kyle Allen threw an incomplete pass on the two-point attempt.

LAKERS

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for Kareem Abdul-Jabbar in 1975, but it would take another five years before LAL tasted a championship again with The Captain joining forces with rookie Magic Johnson in 1980 to beat the "Dr. J" Julius Erving and the Philadelphia 76ers. Magic jumped at center in Game 6 and finished with 42 points, 15 rebounds, and 7 assists to win Finals MVP honors. LAL didn't really expect to win in Game 6 and that's why they opted to leave an injured Kareem in LA to recuperate for the do-or-die Game 7, but Magic had other plans.

Abdul-Jabbar and Johnson, with James Worthy and Byron Scott later joining them to form the Showtime Lakers, accounted for four more LAL championships in 1982, 1985, 1987, and 1988.

Shaquille O'Neal and Kobe Bryant then gave the NBA's latest three-peat after Jordan's Bulls (in 1991-1993 and 1996-1998) when they reached the NBA mountaintop in 2000, 2001, and 2002. Kobe then reaffirmed owner Jerry Buss' decision to pick him over The Big Diesel by delivering them the Larry O'Brien trophy in 2009 and 2010 with lots of help from Pau Gasol, Andrew Bynum, Lamar Odom, and the player formerly known as Ron Artest (now Metta World Peace).

By virtue of the Lakers' 17 championships coming in seven different decades—'40s, '50, '70s, '80, 2000s, and 2010s, and 2020—as against the Celts' 17 titles in five—'50s, '60s, '70s, and '80s, and 2000s—the Lakers have the Celtics beat. The Celtics' last hurrah also came in 2008—that was 12 years ago! Since then the Lakers have rang the bell thrice—2009, 2019, and 2020 to finally match Boston in the number of the championships.

In terms of finals appearances, the Lakers also have 32 as against the Celtics' 21, so it's very clear that the Lakers have been contenders in more years than the Celtics.

It's also interesting that both the Lakers and Celtics laid big fat eggs in the 1990s, as Magic's premature retirement due to AIDS, the tragic deaths of Len Bias and Reggie Lewis, and Jordan and the Bulls' ascension set the two franchises back before returning to championship contention in the 2000s.

Jordan's Chicago Bulls were the kings of the hill in the 1990s as they won all six of their championships that decade (1991-93, 1996-1998). The first three-peat had Jordan, Scottie Pippen, Horace Grant, and B.J. Armstrong as constants, while the second three-peat were anchored again by the NBA's best Dynamic Duo plus Dennis Rodman, Toni Kukoc, and Ron Harper. Mentoring both teams was legendary coach Phil Jackson, who also coached the Lakers' championships in the Shaq and Kobe era and the Black Mamba's No. 24 years in 2009 and 2010.

Tying the former terri-Bulls in the number of championships are the Golden State Warriors. We all know that they've won three in 2015, 2017, and 2018 with their "cheat code" lineup of Kevin Durant, Stephen Curry, Klay Thompson, and Draymond Green, but they also won in 1947 and 1956 as the Philadelphia Warriors before relocating to Oakland in 1965. The 1947 team was bannered by "Jumping Joe" Fulks, one of the NBA's first superstars, while the 1956 team was led by Paul Arizin, who was named one of the 50 Greatest Players in NBA History in 1996. They also won in 1975 with a team bannered by underhand free throw maestro Rick Barry (the father of former NBA players Brent and Drew).

Shaq and Kobe's Lakers actually shared the spotlight in the 2000s with the San Antonio Spurs, which is fifth in the list with five championships. The former American Basketball Association franchise won its first title in 1999 with Twin Towers David Robinson and Tim Duncan carrying the team on their broad shoulders. They'd win it all again in 2003, 2005, 2007, and 2014 with all-stars Tony Parker, Manu Ginobili, and Kawhi Leonard back-stopping The Big Fundamental following The Admiral's retirement.

Three teams are tied in the pecking order of franchises with the most championships, as the Syracuse Nationals/Philadelphia 76ers, Fort Wayne/Detroit Pistons, and Miami Heat have each won three.

The 76ers took their first championship as the Syracuse Nationals in 1955 with 12-time NBA All-Star Dolph Schayes leading them. They won again in 1967 with Chamberlain, Hall Greer, and Billy "Kangaroo Kid" Cunningham ending the Celtics' dynastic eight straight championships. The City of Brotherly Love then won its last title in 1983 with a roster made of up Dr. J, Moses Malone, Andrew Toney, and Maurice Cheeks.

The Bad Boys broke LAL's ambitions of a three-peat by sweeping the Magic-less Lakers in 1989. Isiah Thomas, Joe Dumars, Bill Laimbeer, Mark Aguirre, and a young Dennis Rodman would repeat a year later in 1990. In 2004, Detroit would shock the world by dispatching a Lakers lineup made up of four future Hall of famers (Shaq, Kobe, Karl "The Mailman" Malone, and Gary "The Glove" Payton) in five games in the finals.

The youngest franchise in the list is the Miami Heat (it was awarded an expansion franchise in 1988). A relatively short 18 years later, the Heat won its first of three championships with Dwyane Wade playing like a man possessed in the last four games of the 2004 NBA Finals against the Dallas Mavericks when he averaged an incredible 39.2 points per game. The Heat would form its own version of the Big 3 in 2011 when LeBron James and Chris Bosh joined Wade on South Beach and while they didn't win "not 1, not 2, not 3, not 4, not 5, not 6, not 7…" championships, they were able to host championship parades along Biscayne Boulevard in 2012 and 2013.

The list of teams with multiple championships end with the Houston Rockets, the Baltimore/Washington Bullets/Washington Wizards, and the New York Knicks (yes, long suffering Knickerbocker fans your team wasn't always hot garbage). The Rockets were the prime benefactor of Jordan's dalliance with baseball in 1994 when Hakeem Olajuwon and a roster full of solid role players beat Patrick Ewing and the Knicks in seven games in an NBA Finals that has forever been dubbed "ugly-ball."

The following year in 1995, Rockets retooled by trading for Olajuwon's Phi Slama Jama running mate Clyde "The Glide" Drexler and sixth-seeded Houston became the NBA's lowest seed to win a championship. In the finals, The Dream ran circles around Shaq and Houston swept the Orlando Magic in four games.

The present day Washington Wizards first tasted championship glory in 1948 as the Baltimore Bullets. Thirty years later, the Washington Bullets won it all with Elvin "The Big E" Hayes and Bobby Dandridge leading the way.

Last but not the least, the Knicks won their first title in 1970 behind the all-star Mutt-and-Jeff combination of Willis Reed and Walt Frazier. They beat the Lakers in seven games with Game 7 being the memorable Reed game where the hobbled center started and hit his first two shots to inspire New York to the win and the championship. Led by Frazier again in 1973, the Knicks brought home the bacon again at the expense of the Lakers.

Eight other franchises have one NBA championships—the Rochester/Cincinnati Royals/Kansas City/Sacramento Kings in 1951, the St. Louis/Atlanta Hawks in 1958, the Milwaukee Bucks in 1971, the Portland Trail Blazers in 1977, the Seattle Supersonics/Oklahoma City Thunder in 1979, the Dallas Mavericks in 2011, the Cleveland Cavaliers in 2016, and the Toronto Raptors in 2019.

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ahead in the non-school team division. Running Ruzsalas, The Proclaimers, The PeanutHeads, SIS Grade 2, Team CzechMate, The Fantastic Five, Team Isla Montessori, SIS First Grade, and Team Goal 50Kg are the other participants in the team event so far, while the individual race category has Steven Manaoakamai Johnson, Hannah Friedrich, and siblings Taylor and Dani Nowicki.

After the Maug landing, the next stop in the Run The Marianas is Asuncion, which represents the 67-mile mark of entire "course". Runners will then proceed to Agrihan (130-mile mark), Pagan (175), Alamagan (214), Guguan (234), Sarigan (276), Anatahan (300), Farallon De Midinilla (325), Saipan (376), SIS (388), Tinian (397), and Aguijan (410), before completing the course by reaching Rota (460).

The more members a team has, the more mileage the squad will log and the faster they will reach the finish line. Teams and individual runners have until Feb. 14, 2022 to wrap up the race. Team captains will receive a virtual certificate for every landing made, while each member of the team will receive medals if they complete the "course."

Mileage are recorded a Google Sheet that organizers will provide once registration is completed. Runners can choose any route they want to "run the course" and on Saipan, they can do it along Beach Road, at the Oleai Sports Complex track oval, in the boonies, or even on a treadmill.

Registration forms are available at https://forms.gle/XJojnVbXrjbGMun9A. Entrance fee is $10 per runner, while students running for a school team will pay only $5.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Leilani Ruszala is a member of Saipan International School Grade 3 team, which "landed" at Maug yesterday to complete the first 42-mile of the 460-mile Run The Marianas.

Bellinger HR sends Dodgers to World Series

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Saipan Tribune
Sports

Lakers 'much more likely now' to target Rose

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RUN THE MARIANAS

2 teams off to strong start

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
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REPORTER

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Carlina Maras, seen here running for Saipan International School in last year's Northern Marianas Athletics' cross country series, is part of Saipan International School Grade 3 team, which was one of the two squads to first reach the 42-mile mark of the Run The Marianas.

Two teams have reached the first stop in the Run The Marianas, as the newest race in the CNMI continues to draw "off-island" participants just less than a week after the event kicked off.

English Academy was among the squads that signed up for the virtual race, which has attracted 186 runners so far, including those from North America, Oceania, and Europe. English Academy "landed" at the first stop of the Run The Marianas—Maug—after completing the first 42 miles of the 460-mile (740 kilometers) course that would bring runners from Farallon De Pajaros to Rota via Saipan and Tinian and other "island chains."

Cary Bertoncini, Andy Jiang, Yeawon Kim, I Hou Loi, Kazuma Nakabayashi, Zihuan Shan, Chia Hui Wang, LiTai Wang, and Jeremy Yoon are the members of English Academy. Saipan International School Grade 3 was the other team that "landed" at Maug with LeaAnne Eaton, Aiden Atalig, Selina Chi, Diana Cullwell, Juny Le Kim, Carlina Maras, Jenna Pascual, Yummy Peng, Jude Rayphand, Leilani Ruszala, Marlicarose Sablan, Quido Jambor, and Lucy Woo running for the squad.

Ron Snyder, headmaster of SIS, which organizes the Run The Marianas with Northern Marianas Athletics, said majority of the individual runners and team just started their "tour" around the Marianaas last Thursday so he expects more participants to reach the first "island chain" this week.

In the individual event, Carrie Lewis from Iowa is the pacesetter, while A Team, made up of Lindsay Nash and Whit and Finn Altizer, is

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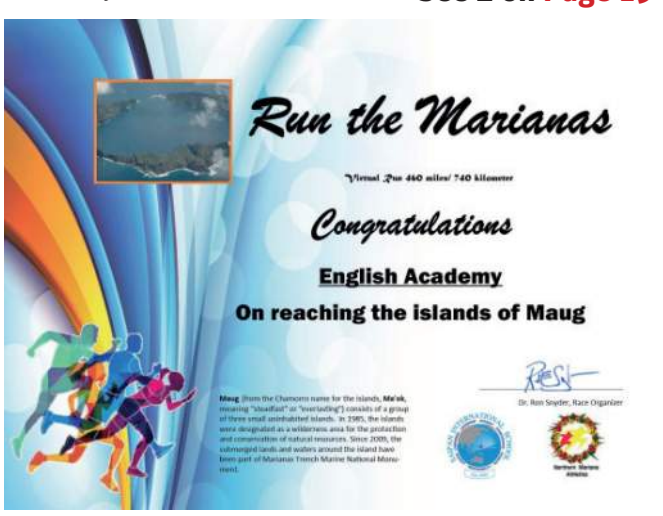

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

A virtual certificate is awarded to English Academy for making it to Maug, the first "landing spot" in the Run The Marianas.

Lakers is now most successful NBA team

The Los Angeles Lakers may now be tied with archrival Boston Celtics with the most championships in the National Basketball Association, but make no mistake about it, the 17th 'chip that LeBron James and company delivered in the Orlando bubble has made the Purple & Gold the most successful team in the history of the Association.

The bulk of Celtics championships came thanks to the great Bob Cousy and defensive demon Bill Russell (1957, 1959, 1960, 1961, 1962, 1963, 1964, 1965, 1966, 1968, 1969) with the two in 1970s (1974 and 1976) coming courtesy of Dave Cowens and John "Hondo" Havlicek. The original Big 3 of Larry Bird, Kevin McHale, and Robert Parish then were responsible for the Shamrock's three championships in 1981, 1984, and 1986 before the next Big 3 of Paul Pierce, Kevin Garnett, and Ray Allen gave the Celtics their latest Larry O'Brien trophy in 2008.

The Lakers' 'chips, meanwhile, were more spread out—literally by geography and by years—with the franchise's first five titles in 1949, 1950, 1952, 1953, and 1954 coming when the franchise was still in Minneapolis led by the NBA's first dominant big man, George Mikan.

It will take 18 long years and a lot of heartache at the hands of Russell and the Celtics before the Lakers would come back to the Promised Land. Now known as the Los Angeles Lakers after their move West in 1960, the Purple & Gold won it all again in 1972 at the backs of their aging stars Wilt Chamberlain and "The Logo" Jerry West.

After Chamberlain and West retired in 1973 and 1974, respectively, the Lakers finally had its next superstar big man when they traded

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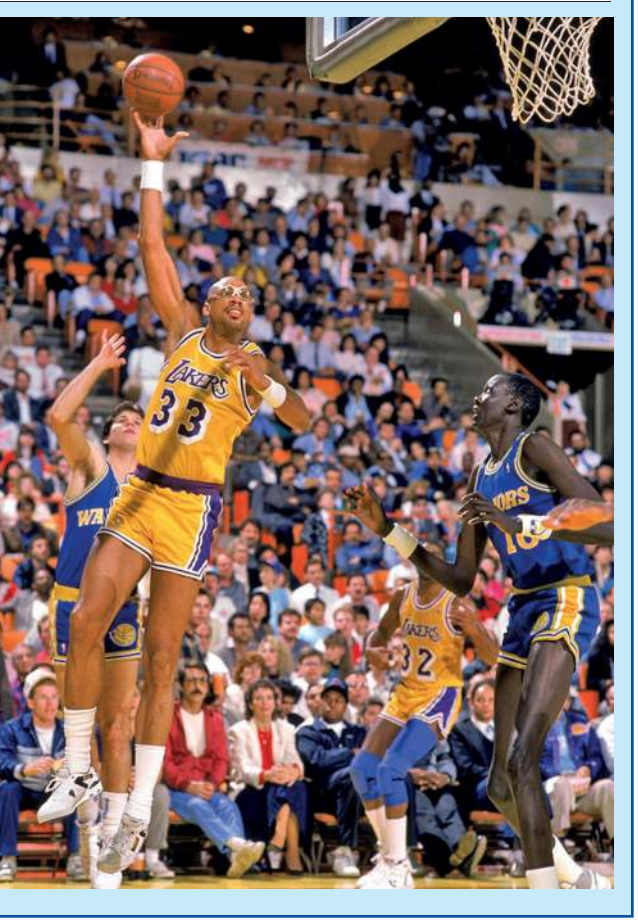
MARKSMAN
By MARK RABAGO
Associate Editor

Mark is a lifelong Los Angeles Lakers fan, but rooted for the Miami Heat in the last NBA Finals because he hasn't fully forgiven LeBron James yet for quitting on the Heat.



AP

In this 1986 file photo, the Los Angeles Lakers' Kareem Abdul-Jabbar goes up for his signature hook shot against the Golden State Warriors.